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Japan

Geneva Settlement of Uruguay Round Talks Urged

OW2204034092 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 18 Apr 92

[Text] At talks scheduled for late April, Prime Minister Miyazawa will stress at summit meetings in France and Germany that the Uruguay Round should reach a conclusion through GATT negotiations in Geneva and should not be influenced by the G-7 summit in July.

The United States and the EC are still confronting each other over issues in the Uruguay Round of talks and GATT Director-General Dunkel recently disclosed his intention to virtually postpone the deadline for talks which was originally set for the middle of April. Given such a situation, U.S. President Bush and EC President Delors are scheduled to hold talks on 22 April, with emphasis on the reduction of farm subsidies. However, it is still unclear whether these talks will provide a breakthrough in the GATT negotiations.

Opinions have been expressed among the United States and other nations that the Uruguay Round should be taken up and discussed at the forthcoming Munich Summit in July and that the Uruguay Round talks should reach an agreement at the earliest date through political decisions taken by the summit leaders.

Responding to this, Prime Minister Miyazawa said that it was rather difficult to reach an agreement at the forthcoming summit talks because there were wide differences of opinion among member nations, and schedules for future talks had not yet been decided. Therefore, he plans to stress that the Uruguay Round talks should be settled only through negotiations in Geneva and that the summit talks should not be entrusted with the issue.

It is thought that what lies behind the prime minister's comments is the Japanese side's conclusion that if the agriculture issue should come up on the agenda of the summit, there is the strong possibility that a proposal to introduce tariffs on rice without exception will be hammered out and that conventional multilateral talks are advantageous to Japan.

Higher Financial Support of U.S. Presence Urged

OW2204133792 Tokyo KYODO in English 1308 GMT 22 Apr 92

[Text] Sendai, April 22 KYODO—Shin Kanemaru, vice president of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), called on the government Wednesday to increase its share of the financial burden of stationing the some 50,000 U.S. military personnel in Japan.

Kanemaru made the call in a meeting of LDP candidates in the national House of Councillors election in July.

"Japan shares only 40 percent of the total cost of maintaining U.S. Armed Forces in Japan," he said.

Japan will pay about 170 billion yen for the U.S. military presence during fiscal 1992 ending in March 1993, informed sources said.

On UN peacekeeping operations, Kanemaru said Japan has to send Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel to join UN missions in consideration of its friendly relations with the United States.

The influential LDP leader referred to the financial aid supplied by the United States for many years after World War II, saying Japan should repay "a debt of gratitude" to the United States by sending the SDF overseas to join UN missions.

A bill that would allow SDF personnel to join UN peacekeeping operations in Cambodia and other countries is pending in the upper house after passing through the House of Representatives last December.

Miyazawa Promises Efforts on U.S. Trade Surplus

OW2204055092 Tokyo KYODO in English 0535 GMT 22 Apr 92

[Text] Tokyo, April 22 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, expressing concern over Japan's bloating trade surplus with the United States, pledged Wednesday he will step up efforts to correct it, ruling party officials said.

Miyazawa, in a meeting with members of his ruling Liberal Democratic Party over lunch, predicted Japan's global trade surplus in fiscal 1991 is estimated to exceed 100 billion dollars, the officials said.

Miyazawa was quoted as saying exports will boost Japan's economy in the January-March period but domestic demand is expected to start picking up in the following quarter, adding that "it cannot be helped that Japan's economic expansion will depend on external demand," he said.

Miyazawa described Japan's growing trade surplus with the United States as "a source of trouble," and said he will step up efforts to overcome it, according to the officials.

The U.S. Commerce Department said last week the U.S. overall trade deficit improved dramatically in February but that with Japan widened.

Touching on a visit to Japan by Russian President Boris Yeltsin scheduled for September, Miyazawa reiterated their meetings will focus on a long-standing territorial dispute over four Russian-held islands off Japan's northernmost Hokkaido main island, the officials said.

Miyazawa pledged the utmost effort to settle the dispute, saying the time is ripe for Japan to solve the question.

Big Carmakers Notified To Cut Exports to U.S.

OW2204082492 Tokyo KYODO in English 0809 GMT 22 Apr 92

[Text] Tokyo, April 22 KYODO—Japan's five biggest carmakers must slash their exports to the United States by 5-8 percent in the current fiscal year to fulfill a government promise to cut such exports, industry sources said Wednesday.

The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) notified the companies of maker-by-maker quotas under which Toyota Motor Corp. will cut U.S.-bound shipments by around 6 percent from its fiscal 1991 level to 480,000 vehicles, and Nissan Motor Co. will cut its exports 8 percent to 300,000.

Honda Motor Co. will be obliged to reduce exports by 6 percent to 320,000, Mazda Motor Corp. by 6 percent to 200,000, and Mitsubishi Motors Corp. by 8 percent to 150,000.

The cuts result from a MITI announcement in March that Japan will tighten voluntary export restraints to the U.S. to 1.65 million cars per year from 2.3 million.

But the ministry raised the export ceiling for second-tier automakers hit harder by the Japanese economic slump.

Isuzu Motors Ltd. will be allowed to export 100,000 vehicles, up 10 percent from the previous fiscal year, Fuji Heavy Industries Ltd. 70,000, up 40 percent, and Suzuki Motor Co. 30,000, up 10 percent.

Daihatsu Motor Co. is not included in the MITI quotas since the company has decided to pull out of the U.S. market.

Watanabe To Address Territorial Issue at Summit

OW2204123792 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 22 Apr 92

[Text] Speaking at the House of Representatives' Committee on Foreign Affairs today, Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe said he would ask that the need for a northern territories settlement be clearly stated in a protocol of agreement at the industrial nations' summit to be held in Munich in July.

Mr. Watanabe said this in reply to a question by Representative Muneo Suzuki of the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP]. Mr. Suzuki asked whether the government should not make efforts to include in some document at the summit the fact that the northern territories issue needs to be resolved. He said the international community should be made aware of this issue, and recalled the need for settlement of the territories issue was pointed out in a statement issued at the London Summit last year.

Foreign Minister Watanabe replied that he would make efforts so the issue would be mentioned during the Munich Summit. Mr. Watanabe thus indicated that he would work on other industrial nations to agree on including a statement on the need for settlement of the northern territories issue.

In reference to the comprehensive aid plans for Russia announced by President Bush, Foreign Minister Watanabe said Japan cannot make direct monetary assistance to Russia's development projects until the territories issue is settled, but as far as the assistance given as part of international cooperation is concerned, it is important that Japan cooperates appropriately as a way of creating an international environment encouraging industrial nations to persuade Russia to settle the issue.

He thus expressed the view that as far as the assistance provided in cooperation with other industrial nations is concerned, Japan should take a flexible stand so that it may contribute to creating an international environment favorable to settlement of the northern territories issue.

Spokesman on Hopes for Russian Islanders' Visit

OW2204082792 Tokyo KYODO in English 0648 GMT 22 Apr 92

[Text] Tokyo, April 22 KYODO—Top government spokesman Koichi Kato said Wednesday he hopes a visit to Japan by Russians residing on disputed islands off northern Japan will help ease uncertainties about their living conditions after the territories are returned to Japan.

The chief cabinet secretary also said he expects the visit to have a favorable impact on resolving the 47-year-old dispute over ownership of four islands seized by the former Soviet Union at the end of World War II.

"This sort of exchange, in comparison with diplomatic negotiations, has important significance," Kato told a news conference shortly before a group of 19 islanders arrived on Japan's northernmost main island of Hokkaido for a weeklong tour.

"I hope their exchanges with Japanese will be natural and smooth, and that they'll have a good time. It would be unfortunate if they were anxious about sudden changes in their lives" after the return of the islands, Kato said.

He said he attached particular significance to the visit because participants are community leaders, and will have an opportunity to meet average citizens as well as local government leaders.

The group, led by M.I. Tereshko, chairman of the Southern Kuril Regional Assembly, includes members of local government, journalists, pensioners, and fishery industry workers.

Official Says No New Unilateral Aid to Russia

OW2204122992 Tokyo KYODO in English 1120 GMT 22 Apr 92

[Text] Tokyo, April 22 KYODO—The planned 24 billion dollar aid package to Russia, to be extended by

Western developed nations, will not include any new Japanese unilateral aid commitment to Russia, a government official said Wednesday.

The official said the money the Group of Seven (G-7) industrial nations has already promised to Russia, combined with expected new loans from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and other lending agencies as well as the planned deferment of Russia's debts, will completely account for the 24 billion dollars.

"There is no need for any new unilateral commitment from Japan, and we won't make any," the official, who wants to be unnamed, said.

Japan has already committed 2.6 billion dollars in export guarantees and other forms of loans to the former Soviet republics.

"The remaining problems are how much of the money can be disbursed this year and how the money should be divided between Russia and the other former Soviet republics," the official said.

The United States and Germany announced earlier this month the 24 billion rescue package to Russia, that comprises 6 billion dollars to establish a fund to stabilize the ruble against hard currencies and 18 billion dollars to prevent Russia from defaulting on its foreign debts.

The G-7 will discuss the details of the assistance at the meeting of their finance ministers and central bankers this weekend.

Of the 18 billion dollars in balance-of-payments assistance to Russia, 11 billion dollars are expected to come from commitments by the G-7 nations.

Japan has been resisting large-scale financial aid to Russia because of its long-standing territorial dispute with the country over the four Russian-held islands off Hokkaido.

The official also said Japan will probably provide more than 750 million dollars in contribution to the 6 billion dollar ruble stabilization fund, which will be financed through an IMF facility known as the General Agreements to Borrow (GAB).

"We will provide 750 million dollars at the minimum," he said.

Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe said Japan would provide 12.5 percent of the 6 billion dollars, or about 750 million dollars, corresponding to Japan's share in the GAB.

Research With Russian Scientists Considered

OW1804024692 Tokyo KYODO in English 0124 GMT 18 Apr 92

[Text] Tokyo, April 18 KYODO—Japan has begun to look into joint research with Russia in basic and applied science as a means of supporting nonnuclear scientists of the former Soviet Union, government officials said Saturday.

The officials at the Science and Technology Agency said the joint research would be aimed at offering job opportunities to Russian physicists, chemists, and mathematicians while stepping up Japan's basic research. The Russian Government will formally ask Japan to participate in joint science research, they said.

If materialized, the scheme would represent one of Japan's major commitments to efforts to help Russia change to an ideology-free market-oriented economy.

Japan has already agreed with the United States and the 12-nation European Community (EC) to set up an international science and technology center near Moscow for former Soviet nuclear scientists.

Nuclear Plant Safety Training Program Planned

OW2204093292 Tokyo KYODO in English 0911 GMT 22 Apr 92

[Text] Tokyo, April 22 KYODO—The Natural Resources and Energy Agency said Wednesday it will send 30 Japanese experts in late May to the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe to organize a study and training program on safety and management of nuclear power plants.

The program will be offered to technicians who wish to study and train in Japan for periods ranging from one week to one month at one of its electric power companies, agency officials said.

The training program will focus on Japanese safety standards, management, and maintenance of nuclear power plants, they said.

The agency has been allotted 220 million yen this fiscal year from the Japanese Government to provide educational assistance to technicians from the Commonwealth of Independent States, East European countries, and Asia nations.

The program is scheduled to last 10 years and include about 1,000 technical trainees from overseas.

Last year, Japan announced the program's details at the London economic summit of seven major industrialized countries.

Watanabe Seeks Extension of French Test Halt

OW2204111892 Tokyo KYODO in English 1048 GMT 22 Apr 92

[Text] Tokyo, April 22 KYODO—Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe called on France on Wednesday to extend its recently announced temporary halt to nuclear testing in the South Pacific, Foreign Ministry officials said.

The officials said Watanabe made the call in a half-hour meeting with French Defense Minister Pierre Joxe, who arrived in Japan on Friday for a weeklong visit.

Watanabe was quoted as saying Japan welcomes France's announcement earlier this month that it would suspend its testing until the end of this year and could be extended beyond 1992 if other nuclear powers follow suit.

But he added that Japan desires to see the ban put into effect for a longer period, officials said.

Touching on Japan's territorial dispute with Russia, Watanabe told Joxe Japan wants Russia to accept its obligations under international treaties signed by the former Soviet Union.

Japanese leaders have said they will seek support from Japan's Group of Seven (G-7) partners at an annual economic summit in Munich in July for the Japanese position on the territorial issue.

Watanabe's reference Wednesday was to the 1956 Japan-Soviet joint declaration, in which Moscow vowed to hand over after the signing of a peace treaty two of the four disputed islands it seized at the end of World War II.

Watanabe said that if Russia recognizes Japanese sovereignty over the four islands, Japan will be flexible when it comes to the timing and method of their actual transfer, the officials said.

'Political' Trip to PRC by Emperor Opposed

OW2204133892 Tokyo KYODO in English 1325 GMT 22 Apr 92

[Text] Tokyo, April 22 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Wednesday his government is strongly opposed to a trip to China this year by Emperor Akihito if it is politically oriented.

Miyazawa told a group of ruling Liberal Democratic Party legislators he does not anticipate Emperor Akihito handling any "political jobs," if the trip goes ahead, party sources said.

"The emperor's visit to China should not be used for any political purpose," an LDP source quoted Miyazawa as telling the legislators.

Miyazawa also said he expects all Chinese and Japanese to support the imperial visit if it is to be realized, the sources said.

Chinese Communist Party leader Jiang Zemin, on a visit to Tokyo earlier this month, called on Miyazawa to facilitate the first visit to China by a Japanese emperor, during this 20th anniversary year of the normalization of Sino-Japanese ties.

Some LDP lawmakers are against the proposed trip because of a dispute over the sovereignty of the Senkaku Islands in the East China Sea, called the Diaoyu Islands by the Chinese.

Party officials said these lawmakers are also not pleased with Chinese demands for wartime compensation from Japan.

Banks To Resume $221 Million Loans to PRC

OW2204123592 Tokyo KYODO in English 1204 GMT 22 Apr 92

[Text] Tokyo, April 22 KYODO—The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Japanese banks will resume loans of 221 million dollars to China to help build more facilities at a blast furnace in Laiwu, Shangdong Province, international financial sources said Wednesday.

The Manila-based ADB, the Export-Import Bank of Japan [Ex-Im Bank], and a consortium of Japanese commercial banks are expected to sign an agreement with the China People's Bank in June, the sources said.

The breakdown of the co-financing is 133 million dollars from the ADB, 35 million dollars from the Ex-Im Bank, and 53 million dollars from the group of Japanese banks, including the Industrial Bank of Japan, Dai-Ichi Kangyo Bank, and Sanwa Bank.

The loans were suspended after the Tiananmen Square military crackdown of prodemocracy demonstrators in June 1989.

Diplomatic Relations Opened With Turkmenistan

OW2204091492 Tokyo KYODO in English 0852 GMT 22 Apr 92

[Text] Tokyo, April 22 KYODO—Japan and the former Soviet republic of Turkmenistan opened up diplomatic relations Wednesday, Foreign Ministry officials said.

Officials said representatives of the two countries exchanged documents to that effect in Moscow.

Japan has now opened diplomatic relations with 12 of the 15 former Soviet republics. The exceptions are Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia.

Czechoslovak President Havel Arrives for Visit

OW2204115892 Tokyo KYODO in English 1121 GMT 22 Apr 92

[Text] Tokyo, April 22 KYODO—Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel arrived in Tokyo on Wedneday for a state visit to Japan which includes an audience with Emperor Akihito and political and economic cooperation talks with Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa.

Havel will attend a welcoming ceremony at the Akasaka State Guesthouse on Thursday morning before meeting with the emperor.

He will hold talks with Miyazawa in the afternoon.

Poland Agrees To Conclude Civil Aviation Pact

OW2204114592 Tokyo KYODO in English 1020 GMT 22 Apr 92

[Text] Tokyo, April 22 KYODO—Japan and Poland agreed Wednesday to conclude a civil aviation pact

allowing their airlines to operate in each other's country, Transport Ministry officials said.

The officials said the agreement was reached at a meeting between Transport Minister Keiwa Okuda and Polish Ambassador to Japan Henryk Lipszyc.

Okuda and Lipszyc confirmed that preparatory negotiations will be held between the two governments, but the site and time of the talks have yet to be decided, they said.

They said Poland expressed hope its airliners will be allowed to land at the new Tokyo International Airport at Narita, east of Tokyo, but Japan will offer the Kansai International Airport under construction near Osaka because of congestion at Narita.

Kansai airport is scheduled to be opened in the summer of 1994.

Poland will offer Warsaw's airport to Japanese airliners, the officials said.

Sakai Minato, DPRK's Wonsan To Sign Pact

OW2204125892 Tokyo KYODO in English 1153 GMT 22 Apr 92

[Text] Yonago, Tottori Pref., April 22 KYODO—The Japanese and North Korean port cities of Sakai Minato and Wonsan will sign an agreement on establishing sister city relations in May, municipal officials said Wednesday.

Sakai Minato in Tottori Prefecture will be the first Japanese city to have a sister city tie-up with a North Korean community, the officials said.

Japan and North Korea have no diplomatic relations.

Sakai Minato Mayor Tetsuo Kuromi and Sin Hong-kyu, chief secretary of the committee of the Korean Workers' Party in Wonsan, will exchange documents on the sister city relations when Kuromi heads a 14-member delegation to North Korea from May 9, the officials said.

The aim of the planned relationship is to promote economic, cultural, and sports ties between the two cities, they said.

Delegations from Sakai Minato, comprising city assembly members and citizens, have visited the North Korean city since 1979 as part of efforts to set up sister city ties, the officials said.

Tokyo To Announce 'Comfort Women' Probe Results

OW2204133092 Tokyo KYODO in English 1302 GMT 22 Apr 92

[Text] Tokyo, April 22 KYODO—The Japanese Government plans to announce the results of its current investigation into the forced prostitution of Korean "comfort women" during World War II possibly in May, a government official said Wednesday.

Masayuki Kimura of the Cabinet Councillor's Office on External Affairs said a similar survey being conducted by the South Korean Government will end in June or July, but Tokyo hopes to complete its probe and announce its results before Seoul.

Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe told the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives that the government will in some way express its remorse for Japan's forcing of Korean women to be prostitutes for Japanese troops during World War II.

An estimated 100,000 to 200,000 women and girls, chiefly from Korea, but also from China, Taiwan and the Philippines, are believed to have been forced into prostitution in military brothels for front-line Japanese soldiers.

Three Burmese Dissidents Granted Refugee Status

OW2204084792 Tokyo KYODO in English 0826 GMT 22 Apr 92

[Text] Tokyo, April 22 KYODO—Japan has granted refugee status to three Myanmar [Burmese] dissidents stranded in Japan after the military took power in their country in 1988, one of the three said Wednesday.

Win Naing said the Justice Ministry on Monday recognized him, his Aunt Mya Mya Win, and her son Moe Min Oo as refugees.

The ministry declined to confirm or deny the decision, saying it may incur fresh persecution against the dissidents' family members at home.

Win Naing, the 32-year-old leader of the 550-member Burmese Association in Japan, said the three are the first Myanmar dissidents in Japan to win refugee status from the ministry.

Both Mya Mya Win, 45, and her 16-year-old son are members of the dissident group.

Win Naing said he hopes the Japanese Government will provide refugee status to other dissidents from Myanmar and other countries who fear official reprisal if extradited.

Win Naing said the Myanmar Embassy in Tokyo has revoked several passports, including his and those of his aunt and cousin.

The association said the three came to Japan before the 1988 military crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrators in Yangon [Rangoon] and are still involved in protest activities in Japan.

They have repeatedly joined demonstrations calling for the release of detained Myanmar opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi, the 1991 Nobel Peace Prize winner, and thousands of other jailed prisoners of conscience, it said.

Kyoji Kojima, head of the ministry's Refugee Recognition Section, told KYODO News Service, "I refuse to comment on other cases of refugee status application, as information on such pleas may incur fresh persecution."

"Asylum seekers themselves are free to talk to the press," Kojima said, adding the ministry has the policy of declining to reveal reasons why it granted refugee status to any dissidents or refugees.

Fujimori Election Vow Said 'Important Step'

OW2204120192 Tokyo KYODO in English 1123 GMT 22 Apr 92

[Text] Tokyo, April 22 KYODO—Senior Japanese Foreign Ministry officials Wednesday welcomed Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori's announcement that he will hold democratic referendums and elections for a new congress.

Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe told the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee that he has sent a message to Fujimori, asking him to "bring the Peruvian situation to normal."

Terusuke Terada, head of the ministry's Latin American and Caribbean Affairs Bureau, told the same panel Fujimori's new measures are "an important step toward normalcy" in Peru.

Takao Kawakami, director general of the ministry's Economic Cooperation Bureau, said Japan at present has no intention to suspend economic aid to Peru.

Fujimori on April 5 suspended the Peruvian congress and judiciary and put political opponents under house arrest. The move brought international criticism, and the United States halted aid to Peru.

UN Fund Head Asks Miyazawa To Contribute More

OW2204084592 Tokyo KYODO in English 0644 GMT 22 Apr 92

[Text] Tokyo, April 22 KYODO—The head of the United Nations Population Fund urged Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa on Wednesday to increase Japan's contribution to the fund, a Foreign Ministry official said.

Miyazawa told Nafis Sadik that his government plans to continue its cooperation, but gave no indication he is prepared to boost Japan's annual 60 million dollar donation to the fund, the official said.

The fund's executive director, who is in Tokyo to attend a symposium on the world population explosion, has said that her organization needs to quadruple its 230 million dollar annual budget by 2000 if world population is to stabilize at around 10 billion people in the next century.

Without decisive action in the next decade, it is more likely that the world population will stabilize instead at 15 billion in 100 years from now, she said Monday.

Japan is the fund's single largest donor, although Tokyo's total development assistance earmarked for family planning is less than one-third that provided by the United States.

Former World Bank president Robert McNamara, who also attended the meeting between Sadik and Miyazawa, said that failure to control population could have dire social and environmental consequences, according to the official.

LDP, SDP To Start Peacekeeping Bill Debate

OW2204133292 Tokyo KYODO in English 1322 GMT 22 Apr 92

[Text] Tokyo, April 22 KYODO—Japan's ruling and largest opposition parties agreed Wednesday to begin House of Councillors discussion of a bill aimed at sending Self-Defense Forces [SDF] overseas on United Nations peacekeeping missions.

The government-sponsored bill, passed by the House of Representatives last December, is pending before the opposition-dominated upper house.

The ruling Liberal Democratic Party and the opposition Social Democratic Party (SDP) agreed on the schedule for Diet discussions on the bill after their secretaries general and the chairmen of their parliamentary groups met separately, party officials said.

According to the agreement, the SDP will present its own legislative alternative to the government bill at the plenary session of the Diet on Monday.

The upper house's ad hoc committee on the UN Peacekeeping Operations Bill is scheduled to begin full-scale discussions on the two bills—one sponsored by the government and the other submitted by the SDP—on Tuesday.

The debate on the bills is expected to face rough going because of the difference of opinions among the opposition parties.

Komeito, the second-largest opposition party, which supported the government's bill in the lower house, is demanding that part of the government-sponsored bill be frozen so Japan for the time being will not have to join UN peacekeeping armed forces.

The Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) insists that Diet approval be required in advance each time the SDF are dispatched abroad to take part in the UN peacekeeping missions in trouble spots.

Meanwhile, the SDP compiled Wednesday its own bill designed to step up Japanese nonmilitary contributions to the international community.

The SDP bill is aimed at creating a standing international cooperation corps consisting of some 2,000 civilians.

Under the bill, the mission of the corps, which would exclude SDF personnel and its reserve members, is limited in nonmilitary fields and excludes activities such as monitoring ceasefires that require a military presence.

Miyazawa on Not Holding Simultaneous Elections

OW2204072992 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 22 Apri 92

[Text] The secretary generals of the various factions within the ruling Liberal Democratic Party met yesterday to agree not to hold simultaneous elections for the two houses of the Diet this summer. Asked today by reporters to comment on the agreement, Prime Minister Miyazawa indicated his endorsement of their agreement at the moment, saying that it is a good idea. At the meeting held yesterday, the secretary generals of the LDP factions discussed the question of holding simultaneous elections for the two houses of the Diet and agreed not to hold them, citing the lack of a just cause for dissolving the lower house. Answering questions by reporters this morning in connection with the agreement, Prime Minister Miyazawa said: It is a good idea and I have never thought of holding such elections. In this way, the prime minister expressed his endorsement of the agreement reached among the secretaries-general of the LDP factions at their 21 April meeting.

North Korea

Choe Kwang Lauds Kim Chong-il at Rally

SK2104134592 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0810 GMT 21 Apr 92

[Speech by Choe Kwang, member of the Political Bureau, the Workers Party of Korea Central Committee, vice chairman of the DPRK National Defense Commission, and chief of general staff of the Korean People's Army, at rally of soldiers of the Ministry of People's Armed Forces to congratulate conferment of the title of marshal of the DPRK on Kim Chong-il held on 21 April; place not given—recorded]

[Text] Comrades, all people throughout the country and officers and men of the People's Army received an exciting report that after the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song, who is the most outstanding military strategist mankind has ever had and an ever-victorious iron-willed courageous general, was upheld as DPRK generalissimo, the respected supreme commander Comrade Kim Chong-il, the great leader [yongdoja] of our party and people, was upheld as marshal. We are filled with deep emotion and joy because of this report.

All old anti-Japanese fighters, fighters of national defense, and new generations of the revolution greet the great national congratulatory occasion which will be another great event in the proud history of the Korean people. Their hearts are overflowing with great honor and happiness.

That we uphold the respected supreme commander Comrade Kim Chong-il as marshal of the DPRK is a clear expression of loyalty and filial piety of our People's Army officers and men who are resolved to render their loyalty and filial piety to the dear comrade leader, who made immortal achievements for the period, for the revolution, for the fatherland and for the people by embarking on the van of the chuche revolutionary cause, by upholding him in the supreme position [suwi] of our party, state and Army. This highly demonstrates their iron-clad faith and will to accomplish national reunification and the chuche revolutionary cause by following the leadership of the comrade supreme commander.

The respected supreme commander Comrade Kim Chong-il was upheld as marshal of the DPRK through the ardent desire and absolute trust of our people and officers and men of the People's Army. With outstanding and tested leadership, he is leading the revolution and construction along the single road of brilliant victory. He is an outstanding and great man as well as the revolution's great military genius who made immortal achievements in the fatherland's history and in the history of the struggle for mankind's liberation. [applause]

In the days of growth amid arduous revolutionary storm after inheriting the uncommon nature and temperament of Generalissimo Kim Il-song, the great general without match, the respected comrade supreme commander embodied the traits of a great military strategist and outstanding courageous general. With tireless and sleepless speculation and unique ideological and theoretical activities, he regularized the chuche-oriented military ideas, military theories and tactics created by the great leader as military science. He constantly deepened and developed it in compliance with demands in building the Army. He made outstanding contributions to the development of military ideas and theories of our era's working class.

The military science comprehensively attained by the respected comrade supreme commander is a complete revolutionary military theory which gave perfect answers to all military practical and theoretical issues raised in building the revolutionary armed forces and in carrying out modern revolutionary warfare.

The encyclopedic military science, which has been ardently sought by revolutionary mankind of the independence era, has been newly regularized. As a result, our People's Army and people acquired a guideline for accomplishing the cause of building the Army and an ever-victorious and indomitable treasure for modern revolutionary warfare.

The respected supreme commander Comrade Kim Chong-il, inheriting the glorious revolutionary tradition created by the great leader, made every effort to strengthen and develop our People's Army into an ever-victorious indomitable revolutionary armed force endlessly loyal to the party and leader.

The respected comrade supreme commander, who expounded philosophical principles of the revolution at an early date, energetically led the work of establishing the party's guiding system—the chuche ideological system—within the People's Army.

By presenting a slogan of loyalty, "Let us fight by dedicating our lives to the great leader," he carefully led the indoctrination of the chuche idea based on teaching loyalty so that it was carried out in an aggressive manner. During the days of his great leadership, our People's Army has been firmly prepared as loyal ranks and as the chuche-type army of the party which is firmly united with the leader of the revolution and supreme commander of the revolutionary armed forces. This leader shares their destiny. [applause]

Based on his keen awareness of modern warfare's features and his awareness of experiences that our revolutionary armed forces gained in two revolutionary wars, the respected comrade supreme commander created a number of mighty military strategies and tactics of our own style, and put forward the principle of military discipline of our own style. He saw to it that the entire Army was filled with the revolutionary outlook on training, thus strengthening the People's Army military and technological preparations in every way.

Today our People's Army is demonstrating well its dignified appearance as a strong, invincible army capable of crushing any aggressor at a single strike. This is a brilliant fruition of outstanding and tested leadership of the respected supreme commander Comrade Kim Chong-il, an ever-victorious iron-willed courageous leader. [applause]

The respected supreme commander Comrade Kim Chong-il, a great military strategist, also saw to it that an all-people, all-national defense system with the People's Army as its core was more perfected and consolidated. Thus he made the entire nation an impregnable fortress.

Thanks to uncommon tactics and farsighted wisdom of the respected comrade supreme commander, a monolithic and unified command system, which cannot be seen in any other country, was firmly established in our country and an all-people and all-national defense system, under which all people are armed and the entire nation is turned into a fortress, has been firmly developed.

The respected supreme commander Comrade Kim Chong-il crushed every step of U.S. imperialist aggressors' war maneuvers with peerless courage. He firmly defends the most superior popular mass-centered socialism of our own style.

Indeed, the respected supreme commander Comrade Kim Chong-il has created an example for building an Army in the era of independence with profound ideological and theoretical activities by cherishing uncommon wisdom, outstanding leadership and a sense of endless dedication to the revolutionary cause. He is a great strategist of the revolution, an ever-victorious iron-willed courageous leader, and a hero for all ages who has made everlasting precious achievements for the nation, the revolution and the cause of mankind for independence. [applause]

During this significant occasion, displaying the sense of reverence and wholehearted loyalty of all people, I respectfully extend the greatest honor and warmest congratulations to the respected supreme commander Comrade Kim Chong-il, who made everlasting precious achievements for the period, the revolution, the party and the fatherland. He was upheld as marshal of the DPRK according to the unanimous will of the people and officers and men of the People's Army. [applause] [shouts of hurrah]

Comrades, today we face an honorable and important task to achieve national reunification and to accomplish the chuche revolutionary cause to the end by upholding the leadership of the respected supreme commander Comrade Marshal Kim Chong-il.

The leadership of the respected supreme commander Comrade Marshal Kim Chong-il is the center of our revolutionary armed forces and loyalty to comrade supreme commander is the source of all victories of our People's Army.

All functionaries and soldiers should firmly establish the revolutionary outlook concerning the leader and assume loyalty to the respected supreme commander Comrade Marshal Kim Chong-il as their faith, conscience, morality and every-day principle. They should firmly prepare themselves as genuine loyalists and dutiful sons who sincerely trust and follow only the comrade supreme commander no matter how violently the winds may blow and share his destiny to the end.

At the same time, we should tenaciously struggle against various antiparty and antirevolutionary ideological trends, such as capitalism, revisionism and the policy of gradual improvement [kaeryang chuui]. We should dye all military works one color and conduct military activities only according to the revolutionary ideas and intentions of the respected supreme commander Comrade Kim Chong-il.

It is a revolutionary practice of our People's Army to accomplish the order and directive of the respected comrade supreme commander to the end even if it means going through fire and water. All functionaries and soldiers should demonstrate a high revolutionary spirit and combat power in the struggle to accomplish the ideas and objectives of the respected comrade supreme commander by upholding the slogan of faith, "What the party decides, we will do."

By repeatedly conducting training, we should firmly prepare ourselves to be one-a-match-for-100 fighters. At the same time, we should strengthen the combat duties in compliance with the prevailing situation, and should firmly consolidate outposts and encampments to make impregnable fortresses.

By upholding the party's objectives, we should bring into full bloom the fine customs of government-military unity, military-civilian unity and unity between party members and members of the League of Socialist

Working Youth of Korea. We should organize all army units as a harmonious communist group possessing combat power and firmly unite with one another being one in desire and heart.

Only victory and honor await our People's Army which advances due to its following the wise leadership of the respected supreme commander Comrade Marshal Kim Chong-il, the great military strategist and courageous general for all ages.

Let us all the more vigorously fight to achieve national reunification and to accomplish the chuche revolutionary cause in firm unity with the comrade supreme commander by cherishing a great national pride in upholding the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song as generalissimo of the DPRK and dear Comrade Kim Chong-il as the supreme commander of the Korean People's Army [KPA] and as marshal. [applause]

Long live Comrade Generalissimo Kim Il-song, the great leader [suryong] of our party and people! [applause and shouts of hurrah]

Long live Comrade Marshal Kim Chong-il, supreme commander of the KPA and the great leader [yongdoja] of our party and people! [applause and shouts of hurrah]

Third Joint Nuclear Committee Meeting Detailed

SK2204070492 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2300 GMT 21 Apr 92

[Text] The third meeting of the North-South Joint Nuclear Control Committee took place on 21 April at Tongilgak in our side's area of Panmunjom.

Present at the meeting were, from our side, Choe U-chin, chairman of the North-South Joint Nuclear Control Committee, (Pak Kwang-won), vice committee chairman, and five committee members. The chairman, vice chairman, and five members from the South side were present. The meeting took place behind closed doors.

After the meeting, Choe U-chin, our side's chairman, gave a news briefing on the meeting.

According to him, at the meeting, our side recalled that the Third Session of the Ninth DPRK Supreme People's Assembly held in Pyongyang on 9 April deliberated and endorsed the agreement between the DPRK Government and the International Atomic Energy Agency on the application of safeguards under the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. Our side stressed that this is a clear expression of our honest and sincere efforts to faithfully fulfill our duty under the international treaty and another momentous event in denuclearizing the Korean peninsula.

Our side also said that in the two previous meetings of the Joint Nuclear Control Committee, the two sides merely learned each other's demands and proposals and failed to take actual practical measures to implement the joint declaration. Our side pointed out that this makes us question whether the South side has the intention to sincerely implement the joint denuclearization declaration. Citing specific facts, our side pointed out that this is because the South side is trying to exclude U.S. nuclear weapons and nuclear bases in the South side's area from the inspection and to keep them hidden; the South side has not presented documents of agreement on implementing the joint denuclearization declaration; the South side has adamantly opposed our proposal to abstain from any maneuver or collude [with third parties] to threaten the other side with nuclear weapons and to make joint efforts to have nuclear states ensure the nuclear-free status of the Korean peninsula and prevent nuclear threats from outside; and the South side has resorted to delaying tactics.

Our side said that the South side is building artificial obstacles to the work of the North-South Joint Nuclear Control Committee because it does not want to implement the joint denuclearization declaration in step with the U.S. nuclear policy to keep South Korea as the largest nuclear forward base in the Far East.

Our side urged the South side to free itself as soon as possible from the old mode of existence of seeking to live under the so-called protection of outside forces while leaving its destiny to their tender mercy. Our side stressed that it is high time the South side make a bold decision to completely solve the nuclear problem hand in hand with us from a position of national independence.

Our side clearly said that the joint denuclearization declaration, as the nation's common declaration ratified by the two sides' chief executives [as heard], is neither a document for which it is acceptable to implement or not nor a document for which it is acceptable to implement next year if it cannot be implemented this year. Out of the desire to implement the joint denuclearization declaration at an early date, our side, taking into account and respecting the South side's opinion, presented a new draft of the rules of inspection, a supplement to the agreement to implement the joint denuclearization declaration, by largely revising the draft which we had proposed at the first meeting.

In the draft of the rules of inspection, composed of six chapters, 25 articles, and 45 paragraphs, our side stipulated methods and procedures for the inspection of nuclear material and nuclear facilities; revised clauses on the period of inspection and on inspection equipment and devices; added new forms of documents on the exchange of information and on inspection plans; included a new clause on the resolution of disputes; and deleted or revised expressions that we think it difficult for the South side to accept and expressions in our draft of the rules of inspection that are different from those in the South side's draft of the rules of inspection.

The South side spoke next at the meeting. It presented what is calls a modified draft of the rules of inspection that is little different from its previous one, insisting that the two sides are only required to separately implement the first three paragraphs of the joint declaration because

they are obligatory to both sides. These three paragraphs are: Paragraph 1. The North and the South shall refrain from testing, manufacturing, producing, receiving, possessing, stockpiling, deploying, or using nuclear weapons; Paragraph 2. The North and the South shall use nuclear energy only for peaceful purposes; Paragraph 3. The North and the South shall not possess nuclear reprocessing facilities and uranium enrichment facilities.

The remarks by the two sides at this meeting clearly show that our side's position was to sincerely implement the joint denuclearization declaration and completely denuclearize the Korean peninsula and that the South side's position was to exclude the U.S. nuclear weapons and nuclear bases from the inspection at all costs and not to implement the joint denuclearization declaration in an effort to live under the U.S. nuclear umbrella at all costs.

In response, our side said that the main problem in the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula is the U.S. nuclear weapons and nuclear bases and that the South side's attempt to exclude them from the inspection is a trick to avoid adopting an agreement to implement the joint declaration.

Our side said: While discussing the possibility of nuclear weapons being secretly introduced or becoming an international issue, the South side did not present a draft of the agreement to implement the joint declaration but came empty-handed and groundlessly found fault with us. This is an act committed out of the insidious purpose of blocking progress in the dialogue, not implementing the joint declaration, and putting international pressure on us hand in hand with outside forces.

Our side also said that we do not yield to anyone else's pressure because we live with our ideas and our ideology and urged the South side to assume an attitude and position to resolve the denuclearization issue from a position of national independence instead of trying to live by currying favor with outside forces.

Our side stressed that the rules of inspection must be in thorough compliance with joint denuclearization declaration and with the Agreement on the Formation and Operation of the North-South Joint Nuclear Control Committee and must be beneficial to denuclearizing the Korean peninsula. Also, our side asked the South side whether it would include nuclear weapons and nuclear bases in the inspection and present its draft of the agreement to implement the joint declaration or whether it would start the drafting based on our draft agreement and rules of inspection.

However, the South side made irrelevant replies, refrained from answering our side's question, and resorted to delaying tactics while presenting one unjust pretext or another and talking as if it were sincere.

No progress was made at the meeting as a result.

Our side proposed to hold the fourth meeting on 12 May. However, the South side insisted on discussing the date of the next meeting at the seventh North-South high-level talks.

Scientific Cooperation Accord Signed With Tunisia

SK1904084592 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0824 GMT 19 Apr 92

[Text] Pyongyang April 19 (KCNA)—An agreement on economic, scientific, technological and cultural cooperation wassigned here Friday [17 April] between the governments of the DPRK and the Republic of Tunisia.

Present at the signing ceremony on the Korean side were Han Tae- yol, vice-minister of external economic affairs, and officials concerned and on the Tunisian side were members of the government delegation of Tunisia headed by Noureddine Mejdoub, secretary of the Foreign Ministry.

South Korea

Hyundai's Chong Mong-hon Arrested for Tax Evasion

SK2104125292 Seoul YONHAP in English 1214 GMT 21 Apr 92

[Text] Seoul, April 21 (YONHAP)—The Seoul District Prosecutor's Office Tuesday afternoon placed under arrest Chong Mong-hon, vice chairman of Hyundai Merchant Marine Co., in connection with the suspected raising of a large secret fund and a resultant tax evasion by the firm.

Chong was charged with violating the law on aggravated punishment of persons involved in specific crimes and also with forging private documents.

He was put to the Seoul Prison. His arrest brought to seven the number of the firm's officials and employees placed under arrest in connection with the case.

A person convicted of dodging 500 million won or more in tax could be given a prison term ranging from five years to life, while a fine could be twice to five times as much as the tax amount dodged.

A prosecution source said Chong was suspected of raising a secret fund of 21.1 billion won chiefly through altering or forging freight charge invoices from foreign stevedoring firms, and thereby dodging 5.8 billion won in taxes.

The source said the prosecution, however, decided not to dig into the use of the fund partly because it was hard to trace its use since most of the fund were drawn out in cash and because company officials said the money was used in paying rebate to their shipping clients.

It was known the Hyundai Shipping Firm used 3 to 5 billion won a year for the payment of rebate, the source said.

The prosecution plan to indict the corporate body of the firm as well under the legal provisions calling for the punishment of both individuals and the corporation they belong to in a tax violation case.

Hyundai Founder Fears 'Collapse'

SK1804055692 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 18 Apr 92 p 2

[Excerpt] Unification National Party chairman Chong Chu-yong, yesterday claimed that the No Tae-u administration is pressing his Hyundai business group in an indirect means to tame the political party and that Hyundai is thus destined for collapse before the end of this year.

"Behavior by the administration before and after the general elections have convinced me that it wants Hyundai to collapse to satisfy its political greed in the coming presidential election. As our popularity grows, its oppression escalates eventually leading to the dismantling of Hyundai before the balloting," he predicted.

His stunning account came in the wake of the administration's all-out drives against Hyundai, the nation's largest business conglomerate, including extensive tax probers, a sudden halt to bank loans and the arrests of Hyundai Merchant Marine's chief executive officers on charges of tax evasion.

Hyundai companies are now suffering serious financial difficulties, reviving the pre-March 24 election rumors in the stock market that Chong may let one or two small Hyundai subsidiaries slide into bankruptcy in a bid to dramatize his protest against the "oppression" and win over anti-No voters.

Chong, founder of Hyundai and still the largest stockholder despite his recent relinquishment of shareholder's rights, was answering questions from senior journalists at a free-reeling debate organized by the Korea Newspaper Editors Association at the Korea Press Center in downtown Seoul.

Exchange Bank Postpones Sanctions

SK1904064892 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 19 Apr 92 p 8

[By staff reporter Yi Kap-su]

[Text] A series of recent government actions, such as the delay in prosecutors' summons to question Hyundai Merchant Marine Co. vice chairman Chong Mong-hon and the postponement of financial sanctions against Hyundai Electronics Co., seems to have driven the confrontation between the government and Hyundai Group into another phase.

Departing from the previous hardline position, the prosecutors recently allowed Chong Mong-hon, fifth son of Hyundai founder Chong Chu-chong, until Monday to appear for questioning in connection with a probe on diversion of company funds and tax evasion.

The young Chong was initially to be arrested Friday on suspicion of dodging 30 billion won ($38 million) in taxes and operational funds for unknown purposes, but he was abruptly admitted to a hospital for the treatment of a heart disorder.

Prosecutors had insisted the money was funneled to the opposition Unification National Party [UNP] led by Chong Chu-yong.

In a related development, the Korea Exchange Bank, main creditor of Hyundai Group, announced it would postpone sanctions against one of the group's subsidiaries, Hyundai Electronics Co., for the time being.

The bank said it would exclude Hyundai Electronics from the list of Hyundai Group core companies, which are entitled to special borrowing privileges, as a means of punitive measures for allegedly diverting 4.8 billion won ($6 million) in corporate borrowings to the party.

Most analysts view recent developments as a shift of the govenrment's basic position from its ruthless attack on Hyundai to a somewhat mollifying pressure.

The government seems to be backing away from what is considered a politically motivated attack on Hyundai, for fear that further rows with one of the country's biggest three conglomerates might deal a serious blow to the stagnant Korean economy, they say.

Hyundai Group, comprising 43 subsidiaries in light and heavy industries as well as service sector, exported goods worth about $1.98 billion in the first quarter of the year, accounting for 11.6 percent of Korea's entire exports.

However, other analysts say, there are no apparent signs of a letup in the punitive government measures being taken against Hyundai Group and its founder Chong Chu-yong.

Considering that the government is currently probing several other Hyundai affiliates under a variety of charges, it is probably too early to say whether it is easing pressure on Hyundai, a senior Hyundai official says.

Nobody can deny the government's continuing tax investigations and credit squeeze on Hyundai are politically motivated clampdown designed to cut the link of the giant business conglomerate with the No. 2 opposition party before the presidential election in December, he said.

Accordingly, the government's conciliatory gesture might be changed from time to time according to responses from Hyundai Group and UNP leader Chong, said the official.

Despite the government's placated move, however, Chong Chu-yong, who has declared his presidential candidacy, warned Friday in a meeting with newspaper editors that Hyundai Group would collapse this year if

the government did not halt what he termed its "politically motivated suppression" of his business group.

The more the people's expectations for the UNP grows, the more the ruling camp's plot to destroy Hyundai will intensify, Chong told editors.

Chong also said that he would not care if Hyundai collapsed, as long as the UNP and the country fared well.

Chong's grim prognosis of Hyundai's future is regarded as a bluff to throw off the government rather than a serious prediction, government officials say.

Chong seems to take advantage of the government's vulnerable position that it could not let Hyundai Group go bankrupt, given the Hyundai's large role in the Korean economy and its resultant adverse effects such as the possible loss of the ruling party's popularity, massive layoffs of Hyundai employees, and a series of bankruptcies of Hyundai subcontractors, they say.

A likely compromise to end the running dispute between the government and Huundai would involve an assurance from Hyundai that it is truly distancing itself from the UNP, they said.

U.S.-Trained Economists Blamed for Trade Deficit

SK2004143092 Seoul BUSINESS TIMES in English 1 Apr 92 pp 28, 29

[Text] American-trained Korean economists have played an enormously influential role in formulating Korea's economic policy over the past three decades, holding many key posts in government, local think tanks and private research institutes.

As a sure route to personal success, Korean economists have routinely sought higher degrees from American universities, coming back home armed with doctoral theses and expecting an invitation to a prestigious job in one of the powerful economic ministries.

The former military leaders who have served as the country's presidents were largely ignorant of the nuts and bolts of applied economics, and thus tended to give their full trust to the recommendations of the American-trained technocrats.

During the 1970s and '80s, this combination of executive muscle and Western-trained expertise produced a brilliant track record, being responsible for the Korean economic "miracle." But, since the late '80s the miracle has lost some of its luster, and critics of Korea's ostensibly American-influenced economic policy direction are now taking a "what have you done for me lately?" attitude.

Between 1970 and 1990, a total of 801 Koreans received Ph.D. degrees in economics from U.S. universities. Most of these now hold key government posts. A telling comparative statistic is that during the same period, only 305 Japanese completed economics doctorates in the U.S.

Considering the large difference in the relative size of their economies, Korea has a preponderance of American-trained economists compared to the Japanese experience.

Now that the domestic economy is in trouble, the role of the so-called A-TKEs (American-trained Korean economists) is being questioned, as are more fundamental philosophical issues over the future direction of Korea's economic policy orientation.

Policy clashes: Recently in the local media, articles have been appearing concerning basic policy clashes in the economic ministries which point to a growing polarization between the A-TKEs and the non-A-TKEs in their basic philosophies.

Critics of the American-influenced viewpoint contend that A-TKEs are trying to "Americanize the Korean economy" on free-market principles. They argue that Korea should instead look to the German and Japanese models of "creative government intervention" for its future direction.

Proponents of this approach claim that it would better suit the Korean situation, as Korea's economic structure is somewhere about half way in between the American system of free market forces and government intervention. If the influence of the A-TKEs is left unchecked, they warn, the Korean economy will drift toward total imitation of the U.S. system which, at least in theory, abjures all government meddling.

Adversaries of the U.S.-trained policymakers, argue that—like many (though by no means all) Americans—the A-TKEs tend to think the free-market principle can be applied universally, regardless of the unique characteristics of the countries concerned, and that they slavishly revere it as the best allocative mechanism. Skeptics of this universal applicability contend that if Korea is to succeed in making a "second economic take-off," the government must undertake creative intervention, continuing to allocate credits to strategic sectors and chart long-term plans for industrial competitiveness.

Anti-free market voices also offer the obvious argument that recently the U.S. economy has not chalked up a very impressive record, especially against the more managed systems of Japan or Germany, and that Korea, by its past emulation of the American model, is now paying the price in its current floundering trade account.

As more and more of Korea's market sectors have opened up to direct foreign competition, critics of recent policy contend that Korea has fallen prey to U.S. market-opening pressures and that the government has opened domestic markets at a pace too rapid for Korean industries to accommodate. Market-opening is seen as a personal victory for the U.S.-trained economists in the Ministry of Trade & Industry (MTI).

The U.S.-trained technocrats, opponents say, have championed the liberalization of Korea's domestic financial markets, only to wake up to the fact that the

United States continues to push for further and faster liberalization, at a pace more demanding than even the A-TKEs ever imagined.

Some observers claim that the philosophical clash between the pro-American model economists and the "managed market" adherents has resulted in a half-hearted industrial strategy, pointing out as one example, the recent excessive investment in the petrochemical sector which saw all the major conglomerates, including Hyundai, Samsung and Lucky, jumping in with massive new facilities, resulting in a domestic glut.

They add that recent sky-high interest rates and the squeeze in corporate funds have been exacerbated by the huge drain of money into the petrochemical sector. A total of seven trillion won was poured into the industry, which now sees factories running at less than 40

capacity.

Looking at the dismal results of recent government economic policy, these critics contend that the widening trade deficit is a result of floundering industrial policies, and that the MTI has effectively lost control of industrial policy direction. As for the Finance Ministry, they claim, it has adhered too stringently to inflexible regulatory control, which has kept domestic financial markets backward.

Japanese model: The argument in favor of adopting policies closer to the German and Japanese models is quite simple, according to its proponents: the German and Japanese economies are out-performing the American. Furthermore, they claim, the Korean mentality is closer to the German and Japanese than to the American, a contention many might find specious.

Even some voices within the A-TKE camp are expressing doubts about the appropriateness of the free-market model for Korea, especially in view of the role of the chaebol here and the fact that these huge corporations have no counterpart in the American system. Drifting further toward an open, unregulated environment, they now fear, will merely fatten the wallets of the chaebol whose enormous wealth is concentrated in the hands of a few family members.

The growth of the chaebol was a direct result of Korea's previous managed industrial policy, and the American model has no experience in dealing with such a phenomenon and therefore can offer no solutions to its inherent ill-effects. Some observers claim that if Korea now further pursues the free-market principle, and does nothing to limit the powers of the chaebol, Korea will shortly become the "Chaebol Republic."

At the same time, nobody wants to throw the baby out with the bath water. Even harsh critics of the American system are not suggesting that Korea should totally abandon its market liberalization program, but merely that the economy should be liberalized and internationalized within a time frame and with certain restraints so that core industries are not shattered and financial policies do not fall into chaos.

In its opening of domestic financial markets, for example, anti-U.S.-trained policymakers argue that Korea should not emulate the American financial system, claiming that U.S. banking problems, the collapse of savings and loan institutions and recent mergers of giant U.S. banks are all by-products of the overly free-market style of the American financial system.

If Korea accepts the U.S. logic of complete market opening and a Western-style regulatory environment, the domestic financial system will soon be in shambles, they claim. "If Korea loses control over the financial sector it would mean also discarding industrial policy," one technocrat warned, "because bank credits, unless rationed by the government to the benefit of strategic industries, would be quickly diverted into the hands of the chaebol."

If the current wave of pro-managed economy thinking makes major inroads in the government, it will significantly restrict the influence of U.S.-trained bureaucrats in domestic policymaking.

ROK-Vietnamese Economic Cooperation Growing

SK2204033092 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 21 Apr 92 p 5

[Article by reporter Pak Chong-mun]

[Text] The fact that the government and the Vietnamese Government reached agreement to establish a liaison office in each other's capital is significant in that the government has resolved a long outstanding diplomatic issue, though the resolution is still insufficient.

ROK businessmen began to actively make their way into Vietnam, which is a new market and treasure trove of resources, near the end of the 1980's assisted by the zeal for nordpolitik. Their competition to get ahead of others to secure natural resources such as anthracite coal, scrap iron, and timber, and to sell goods such as household electronic appliances, textile goods, and fertilizer was fierce in 1990 and 1991.

Nine enterprises, including Samsung, Daewoo, Lucky-Gold Star, Hyundai, and Hyosong, established branch offices in Hanoi or Ho Chi Min City toward the end of 1990. In 1991, larger business corporations, including such major enterprises as Ssangyong, Tusan, and Korea Synthetic Fiber Company, began operating branch offices. As a result, bilateral trade, which was no more than $55 million in 1987, increased to $140 million in 1990, rapidly increasing to $220 million in 1991. The number of personnel exchanges also increased from 200 in 1990 to 1,800 in 1990 and 5,500 in 1991.

In contacting our government, the Vietnamese authorities wanted us to provide them with funds and technology necessary for their country's economic development.

The ROK enterprises and Government are taking great interest in the "Big Bear" oilfield development project, which the Vietnamese Government is pushing. The Big Bear oilfield is the largest undeveloped undersea oilfield in the world, with an estimated deposit of 1 billion barrels. Our enterprises have formed an ROK consortium with eight enterprises, including the Oilfield Development Corporation, Samsung, Ssngyong, and Daewoo, and are waiting for the final bid, which is expected this month.

The government decided to establish a liaison office at least for the present, despite the U.S. pressure against it, probably because it did not want to lose the opportunity to participate in the development of this oilfield. Competing in the bid will be Japan's Mitsui Group and Marubeni Group. It has been learned that the ROK consortium has signed an unofficial contract with the U.S. firm Phillips for technological collaboration and joint ownership of shares.

Despite the fact that ROK-Vietnamese relations have become closer and are likely to develop even more in the future, the government decided so belatedly to establish a liaison office. This is because the government has tried to read the U.S. mind.

The United States has hostile relations with the present Vietnamese regime, and, since it lost the war with Vietnam, it has requested that the ROK and its other allies be prudent in improving relations with Vietnam, imposing an economic blockade on Vietnam for the reason that the POW and MIA issue and the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia remain unresolved. Therefore, our businessmen and the government, which allowed the former to visit Vietnam, have had difficulties trying to read the U.S. mind.

Solomon, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Asian and Pacific affairs, while visiting the ROK on 16 March, stressed that the ROK and Japan should closely consult with the United States to secure the implementation of the two-year plan which Vietnam had promised for the resolution of such issues as the MIAs. This is a typical example of the U.S. pressure.

Now that the ROK and Vietnam have agreed to establish diplomatic relations by the end of this year, let alone the establishment of the liaison offices, the government should take care that this schedule is fulfilled, catering to U.S. requests at a reasonable level, for the ROK has already catered to the U.S. request to a considerable extent in making this schedule.

Communications Ministry Cites Developmental Focus

SK2204062292 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD SUPPLEMENT in English 22 Apr 92 pp 1, 3

[Excerpt]Technological Development

The Ministry of Communications has set its sights on the following policy directions: to focus on the vulnerable technologies in preparation for telecommunications market liberalization, to beef up the efforts to develop high technologies with a view to building up the next-generation telecommunications network, and to secure proprietary technologies for the purpose of self-reliance in basic technologies.

To those ends, it will make telecommunications makers increase research and development (R&D) funds from 165 billion won or 4 percent of total sales volume last year up to 218.1 billion won or 4.2 percent of their turnover this year, right after the revision of the Electricity and Telecommunications Basic Law.

The ministry will focus attention on the national-level telecommunications projects including those for standardization and for the purpose of beefing up the competitiveness of the manufacturing sector through the dividends accrued from the stocks of Korea Telecom owned by the government. Its investment amount for such a purpose will be increased from 26.9 billion won last year to 30.7 billion won this year.

The government, in the meantime, is trying to secure the funds aiming at promoting information and telecommunications industry based on the R&D Law on Information and Telecommunications Industry. During this year it will secure the fund worth and amount of 80 billion won, along with the plan to lay aside 100 billion won until 1993. The fund will be available for the R&D activities of telecommunications makers and the cultivation of high-caliber technical manpower.

It also plans to set up a R&D center for telecommunications system and a technology back-up center. In addition, the existing four R&D institutes with a total of 810 technical manpower will be expanded into six with 1,200.

A total amount of 5.4 billion won will be provided, available for experimental equipment and scholarships for high-caliber technicians in the universities.

Communications Satellite Project

The Ministry of Communications has been keen on the project worth about $400 million which is the Korea's first-ever communications satellite project.

The contract concerning the Koreasat launch services is due to be concluded in May 1992. The final successful contractor will come to wind up with the satellite building by 1994 to be handed to the Korea Telecom by February 1995.

The government-invested company will launch two Koreasats in April and October 1995, respectively, which will cost about $100 million of the total budget valued at $400 million or 300 billion won.

The building of two launch vehicles will require an amount of $100 million. Along with underwriting and earth stations, two satellite control centers dubbed "Telemetry and Trekking and Command Control (TT&C) will amount to $100 million.

The rest of the budget will be laid aside for research and development, repair and maintenance, operation, program monitoring and consulting.

While encouraging domestic producers to go through effective transfer across the board aerospace technologies including communications satellites, the government-run firm will carry out on-the-job training by dispatching some 30 personnel abroad to acquire state-of-the-art technologies concerning system engineering, payload systems, bus systems, and other control facilities for which the most specific cooperation proposals are required.

The other technical education programs will include short-term training programs, seminars and communications service management programs. Some of them from Korea Telecom will be dispatched for the training programs concerning maintenance and operation, satellite network communications, satellite control software and others.

The Electronics and Telecommunications Research Institute (ETRI) and domestic aerospace companies will focus on payload systems, assembly, integration and testing equipment, control systems, and other subsystems.

Specially concerning the assembly, integration and testing equipment, the Ministry of Science and Technology plans to put aside an amount of 2 or 3 billion won for the purpose of procuring them.

High-caliber technicians, in the meantime, from the Korea Aerospace Research Institute will be engaged in the research and development activities on satellite bus systems, satellite structure and power supply, altitude and temperature controls.

According to the blueprint of the Communications Ministry, Korea will be able to launch the second-generation satellite by 2005 by employing domestic technology.

It is forecast that the Koreasat project will bring about some 20 percent of return-on-investment by 2005 after the 10-year lifespan of the first-generation satellite. According to the demand projection, the prospects for the profitability of the project are optimistic.

The satellite's three direct broadcasting channels will be leased to broadcasting companies including the Korea Broadcasting System (KBS), Munhwa Broadcasting Corporation (MBC) and the other new privatized broadcasting company upon the government's approval.

As demands for a wide range of satellite-based communications services are ever-increasing, the Koreasat project will enable people to have such latest services as video conferencing, TV lectures, high-speed fax, rehabilitization of communications routes cut off by such emergency situations as war or natural disasters like flood and earthquake, direct broadcasting satellite service, TV/CATV broadcasting, SNG (satellite news gathering) and SCPC (single channel carrier per channel).

Pollack Fishing Continues Despite U.S. Pressure

SK2204061392 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 22 Apr 92 p 8

[Text] Korea is being strongly pressured by the United States and the Russian Federation to suspend pollack fishing in the open waters of the Bering Sea to protect the exhausting pollack resources.

Japan, China and Poland have also faced similar pressure.

The two coastal superpowers reiterated their calls for the four countries to agree to the suspension of pollack fishing or a moratorium in the North Pacific open sea at a six-nation conference in Washington April 13-15.

Such action is urgent, citing "the extremely depressed condition of pollack resources," U.S. and Russian delegates stressed. The American and Russian delegations failed to obtain concessions at the Washington conference due to tough opposition by the four nations.

An official of the National Fisheries Administration [NFA], who attended the meeting, said that a moratorium is an extreme measure and would deal a hard blow to all nations involved in pollack fishing including Korea.

"It can hardly be reversed once the action is taken as witnessed in other cases," said Kim Si-mun, deputy NFA administrator.

Korea and the three other nations temporarily reached a consensus with the U.S. Russian Federation that they would cut the number of vessels fishing in the Bering Sea this year and would not catch more than what they did last year.

Kim said Korea agreed to cut its vessel fleet from 41 to 31 this year and their catch would not surpass last year's level. Last year, Korean vessels caught 97,000 tons of pollack in the Bering Sea.

The Japanese delegation agreed to halve their fleet this year and not to catch more than 120,000 tons.

China and Poland agreed to cut the number of fishing days 20 percent and to voluntarily reduce catches if the state of pollack resources deteriorate.

Kim said that all four nations as well as the two superpowers know that pollack resources continue to decrease in the open sea.

It is reported that pollack catches decreased to 293,000 metric tons last year from the peak of more than 1.4 million metric tons in 1989.

But Kim said that pollack resources will be preserved through voluntary restraints rather than a moratorium as sought by the United States and Russian Federation.

The two nations have been seeking an international convention which will strictly control fishing such as a moratorium.

The delegations of the six nations established a working group to continue efforts to produce a final negotiating text at the strong demand of the U.S. and Russian Federation, Kim said.

They also agreed to meet in Tetropavlosk, Kamchatka on Aug. 12 this year to further discuss the issue.

Amid the strong pressure, Kim said, Korea will be obliged to develop other fishing grounds such as Russian and American waters through cooperation with the two nations.

Korea fishing vessels are banned from fishing in Russian waters off four islands north of Hokkaido due to a territorial dispute between Japan and Russia although Korea obtained a fishing quota of 70,000 tons in a January meeting with the Russian Federation in Seoul.

Four Korean fishing boats are also catching pollack in U.S. territorial waters in the North Pacific through joint ventures with American partners.

Pollack is a favorite dish of Koreans. Korean fishing vessels caught 273,000 tons of Alaskan pollack in coastal waters between Korea and Japan and the North Pacific last year but demand far outstripped supply.

Student Leader Interviewed on Chondaehyop Goals

SK2204044492 Seoul SISA JOURNAL in Korean 23 Apr 92 p 35

[Interview with Tae Chae-chun, chairman of the National Council of University Student Representatives, Chondaehyop, by unidentified reporter at Inha University; date not given]

[Text] Student movement groups are accelerating to close ranks prior to the presidential election to be held late this year. I met Tae Chae-chun, new chairman of the National Council of University Student Representatives [Chondaehyop], at Inha university, where the sixth general meeting of Chondaehyop was held.

[Reporter] What is Chondaehyop's goal for this year?

[Tae Chae-chun] Our goal is to lead the pan-national campaign of democrats to victory in the upcoming presidential election and to establish a democratic coalition government. Internally, we are going to make Chondaehyop a national council of all university students to fully accommodate the demands of one million students.

[Reporter] I understand that there is disagreement even in Chondaehyop itself over what to do in the upcoming presidential election.

[Tae] Some chairmen of student councils at some universities argue that a representative of the masses should run for the presidency. We will not ignore this. We will not take it simply as a minority view but will fully discuss the issue and will try to reach an agreement. We still maintain the spirit of unity, despite disagreement. We will make an all-out effort for unity.

[Reporter] I understand that a dominant opinion of Chondaehyop is to support the Democratic Party candidate. Am I right?

[Tae] That is a misinterpretation. Now it is meaningless to talk about whom we should support. Our pending task is to lead the anti-Democratic Liberal Party struggle to victory from April through June as desired by the people. We should unite in the course of struggle and make efforts to use what we will gain in the struggle to settle the candidate issue.

[Reporter] Some people note that the power of the student movement is not as strong as before. What do you say about this?

[Tae] Chondaehyop is in serious agony because of that. We will try to make the student movement compatible with the people's wish and the prevailing situation. We will stop aimlessly throwing firebombs and stones in demonstrations. We will try to find a way of struggle that appeals to the people's feelings.

[Reporter] What do you say about the direction of Chondaehyop's reunification movement this year?

[Tae] Students have been a main force in the reunification movement that has been carried out until now. We will seek a reunification movement that can attract the people. We are planning to struggle for the reunion of separated families and for exchanges with North Korean universities. At the same time, to ensure that the spirit of the North-South agreement will produce practical results, we will not be goofing off in struggling for the release of those who have been put in jail after visiting the North and for the abolition of the National Security Law.

[Reporter] Some people think that Chondaehyop may be overly pro-North Korean.

[Tae] It is true that Chondaehyop has approached the North with compassion, because the North is our counterpart in seeking reunification. If this is construed as something pro-North Korean, what about the No Tae-u regime? I think the same is true with the No regime. I say this, because nothing could have been possible if the North has been treated only with animosity. The problem is that the security authorities, in an effort to spread the cold war-era thinking, ill use the students' ardent aspiration for reunification.

[Reporter] How do you assess what has been done by Chondaehyop prior to serving its sixth term and what do you think has been its major handicap?

[Tae] I think that we have played a great role in turning our movement into a mass-oriented one and in achieving unity and cohesion. Frankly speaking, however, we have been unable to mobilize all the one million students in our movement. From now on, we will try to make Chondaehyop a real center of the students' campus life while continuing the political struggle.

Cambodia

Sihanouk Receives U.S. MIA Senate Delegation

BK2204035092 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 21 Apr 92

[Text] At 1830 on 20 April at the Khemarin Palace, His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Cambodia's head of state, father of the nation, and chairman of the Supreme National Council [SNC], granted an audience to the U.S. Senate delegation led by His Excellency Senator John Kerry.

On this occasion, His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk warmly welcomed the delegation's visit to Cambodia. The prince also spoke on the implementation of the Paris peace agreement and the results of the 20 April SNC session in which His Excellency Butrus Butrus Ghali, secretary general of the United Nations, also attended.

His Excellency John Kerry wished Prince Norodom Sihanouk good health in order to lead the Cambodian national reconciliation toward peace and prosperity.

Hun Sen Meets Group

BK2204052792 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 2300 GMT 21 Apr 92

[Text] On the morning of 20 April at the office of the Council of Ministers, His Excellency [H.E.] Hun Sen, vice chairman of the Central Committee of the Cambodian People's Party and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the State of Cambodia [SOC], received and had discussions with Senator John Kerry and his colleagues in the visiting delegation to search for the remains of U.S. soldiers missing in the Indochina war.

The discussion focused mainly on issues leading to speeding up cooperation in the search for remains of U.S. soldiers missing in action.

H.E. Hun Sen viewed this cooperation as work within the framework of [words indistinct]. He added, however, that the SOC Government has already handed over some remains to the U.S. side.

H.E. Hun Sen said that we willingly welcomed a joint statement between the United States, Vietnam, and Cambodia [words indistinct] search for remains of U.S. soldiers missing in Indochina. Concerning this matter, H.E. Hun Sen was of the opinion that if necessary, a tripartite meeting between the United States, Laos, and Cambodia should be held because Laos is also involved in this matter.

During the discussions, Senator John Kerry expressed satisfaction over the outcome of the cooperation between the United States and the SOC in the search for U.S. soldiers missing in Cambodia. He regarded this as a good example for the Indochinese countries.

Senator John Kerry also revealed that H.E. Hun Sen's recent visit to the United States had a positive influence on the peace plan in Cambodia.

Pledges 'Stronger Impetus'

BK2204130292 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1118 GMT 22 Apr 92

[Text] Phnom Penh 22 April (SPK)—Hun Sen, chairman of the State of Cambodia's Council of Ministers, has proposed to the United States a Cambodia-Vietnam-Laos tripartite meeting on the search for the remains of American soldiers missing in action during the Indochina war and its prisoners of war (MIA/POW).

Chairman Hun Sen, also a member of the Cambodian Supreme National Council [SNC], proposed this when he received in Phnom Penh a U.S. Senate commission delegation in charge of MIA/POW issues led by Democratic Senator John Kerry who paid a 24-hour visit to Cambodia on 20 April.

"The State of Cambodia's police in cooperation with Vietnam could conduct a search operation along the Cambodian-Vietnamese border within the framework of the MIA/POW issue," stressed Hun Sen. He talked about the difficulties encountered by the State of Cambodia's Government but reaffirmed that it "pledges to give a stronger impetus to the settlement of the MIA/POW issue" which he described as "purely humanitarian."

For his part, John Kerry praised the State of Cambodia's efforts [words indistinct] and stressed that [passage indistinct].

Sihanouk Chairs Eighth SNC Meeting 20 April

Butrus Ghali Attends, Speaks

BK2204041692 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1100 GMT 21 Apr 92

[Text] The Supreme National Council [SNC] of Cambodia held its eighth session at the Khemarin Palace on the morning of 20 April under the lofty chairmanship of His Royal Highness [HRH] Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Cambodia's head of state and chairman of the SNC.

Attending the session on the SNC side were Their Excellencies Dit Munti, Hor Namhong, Him Chhem, Im Chhunlim, Khieu Samphan, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, Sin Sen, Son Sann, and Son Sen; [words indistinct]. On the UN side were His Excellency [H.E.] Butrus Butrus Ghali, secretary general of the United Nations; H.E. Yasushi Akashi, special envoy of the UN secretary general and head of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC]; H.E. John Sanderson, high-ranking military official of UNTAC; H.E. Ataul Karim, deputy head of UNTAC; and their excellencies, ladies,

and gentlemen who are high-ranking UN officials and many personages in Cambodia.

This historic SNC session was held to discuss human rights, political rights, and rights in important fields, such as economy, social affairs, and culture, to stimulate the implementation of the Paris peace agreement toward its (?final) goal.

In his opening speech, HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk expressed a warm welcome to H.E. Butrus Butrus Ghali, UN secretary general, for his visit to Cambodia and his participation in the SNC session. The prince recalled the tragic history of Cambodia ruined by the war in the past 20 years and its countless bitter experiences which included wars, violation of human rights, and threats [words indistinct] with all countries across the world.

HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk [words indistinct] peace to Cambodian people.

In his reply, H.E. Butrus Ghali expressed great joy at being able to visit the glorious land of Angkor and [words indistinct] signed on 23 October in Paris.

H.E. Butrus Ghali stressed the heavy tasks of the United Nations in its peacekeeping mission in Cambodia which needs very big expenses, adding however that all activities carried out by the Cambodian parties were an important source of encouragement.

H.E. Butrus Ghali also signed with HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk and SNC members a pact on the rights in economic, social, and cultural fields and a pact on human rights and political rights.

This treaty signing clearly attests to all Cambodian parties' respects for human rights and the rights to conduct activities in economic, social, and cultural fields, as well as the political rights in line with all articles defined in the Paris peace agreement.

H.E. Butrus Butrus Ghali read a statement on human rights to the SNC. He said that in the course of implementing the peace agreement, Cambodia, representing the SNC, must strive to accomplish an effective respect for human rights and create all kinds of freedoms. The signing of these pacts on human rights and political rights and on the rights in economic, social, and cultural fields was done at a time when all SNC members were personally making advances in this matter. In this connection, all Cambodian parties would certainly display their goodwill to rectify all the past wrongdoings, start a new chapter in the history of Cambodia, and create a free society based on laws and justice.

In conclusion, H.E. Butrus Butrus Ghali said he hoped that the SNC would continue its work to protect human rights and bring about respect for all articles of the Paris peace agreement.

Before the eighth SNC session ended, HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk presented a souvenir to H.E. Butrus Ghali who also handed over a photo to the prince as a memento of his first visit to the land of Angkor.

Khieu Samphan Speaks

BK2204031292 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 21 Apr 92

[Text] A meeting of the Supreme National Council [SNC] of Cambodia was held under the lofty chairmanship of His Royal Highness [HRH] Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and SNC chairman, in Phnom Penh on 20 April. H.E. Yasushi Akashi, head of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC], and H.E. General Sanderson, chief of the UNTAC military wing, and his aides were also present.

Following the reports made by Their Excellencies Akashi and Gen. Sanderson and views expressed by a number of the SNC members, H.E. Khieu Samphan, head of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea and SNC member, presented his views welcoming the preliminary result that the SNC and UNTAC have achieved in furthering the correct implementation of the Paris accord. Conspicuously, this includes the dispatch of the UN peacekeeping force and representatives of the four Cambodian parties to a number of checkpoints set up along the Cambodian-Vietnamese border.

H.E. Khieu Samphan continued: What made us happy and satisfied is that we have entered into a correct path. We all agree that key clauses of the accord should be simultaneously executed and kept in balance. He pointed out: We all have the weighty responsibility to the Cambodian nation and people as well as the UN Security Council [UNSC] and the UN General Assembly, which have unanimously approved the UNSC's Paris accord through Resolutions 718 and 745 and the UN General Assembly's Resolution 46/18.

Afterward, H.E. Khieu Samphan recalled the following key points of the Paris 23 October 1991 accord:

1. All categories of foreign forces should be completely withdrawn from Cambodia;
2. The four Cambodian parties' forces should be regrouped and disarmed by 70 percent at an early stage and 100 percent in the end;
3. A neutral atmosphere should be established across Cambodia;
4. Free and fair elections should be organized;
5. The SNC, in its capacity as the unique legitimate body and source of authority in Cambodia, and the UNTAC are duty-bound to closely cooperate in implementing the significance of the Paris accord; and
6. The objective of the accord is to restore peace, independence, and sovereignty to Cambodia and allow the Cambodian people to reenjoy their basic rights and freedom within a liberal economic system and liberal democratic multiparty regime.

H.E. Khieu Samphan again stressed that the accord's first clause, which requires all categories of foreign forces to withdraw from Cambodia and forbids their return, is the most important clause. It plays a key role while other clauses are subordinate. He added: Saying so does not mean that we demand the complete execution of the first clause as a condition for the implementation of other clauses. The important clauses of the accord are closely interrelated components. That being the case, all the provisions of the accord should be simultaneously implemented and kept in balance in compliance with the objective of the accord itself.

H.E. Khieu Samphan also gave the following explanations:

The deployment of the UN peacekeeping forces and the representatives of the four Cambodian parties along the Cambodia-Vietnam maritime and terrestrial borders as well as in important provincial towns, such as Stung Treng, Kompong Cham, and Kampot, will help reduce the pace and size of the shipments of foreign troops and armaments to Cambodia. Those measures would enhance the cease-fire anyway. As such, it can be said that this arrangement will create favorable conditions for the implementation of the plan to regroup and disarm the armies of the four Cambodian parties. In addition, the measures taken by the UNTAC and SNC are concrete actions that show the Cambodian people that the two bodies are determined to execute the accord, making the people have growing confidence in the UNTAC and SNC. If the Cambodian people believe in the UNTAC and SNC, they will certainly actively support them in the execution of their tasks—no matter how difficult and complicated they are—including the task of verifying the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Cambodia as well. At present, the Cambodian people from all walks of life, despite facing dangerous situations, are taking every opportunity to tell foreign newsmen or tourists about the Vietnamese aggressor troop presence in Cambodia. This is evidence of how the Cambodian people are furious with the Vietnamese considering themselves the master [of Cambodia] in violation of the Paris accord.

H.E. Khieu Samphan further said: Measures to enhance the role of the UNTAC as the unique legitimate body and source of authority in Cambodia, to create a neutral atmosphere across Cambodia, and to guarantee the safety, rights, and freedom of every Cambodian are steps to help facilitate the verification by the UNTAC and SNC of the withdrawal of foreign forces from Cambodia. He stressed that: It is time to exchange views and to find concrete ways to make the SNC have the role as the unique legitimate body and source of authority in Cambodia and to create a neutral political climate throughout Cambodia. The accord clearly stipulates this. But how can a neutral political atmosphere be established across Cambodia if concrete measures to enhance the role of the SNC as a unique legitimate body and source of authority in Cambodia are not taken? How can the verification be carried out if each party continues to be the owner of its respective area? How can free elections be organized if Cambodia continues to be split into four separate parts? And how can fighting and truce violation be prevented?

H.E. Khieu Samphan continued: Our people have seriously suffered because our country is split into four parts. The people can never understand why Cambodia, which already has a peace accord and national reconciliation, is still divided with fighting still going on. Our people fully support the clear-sighted opinion of HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and SNC chairman, that the boundary dividing Cambodia into three or four parts should be scrapped at an early date and the SNC should have the capability and means to definitely play its role as the unique legitimate body and source of authority in Cambodia during the transition.

In light of the significant role of the SNC as the unique source of authority in Cambodia and the importance of the creation of a neutral political climate all over Cambodia, H.E. Khieu Samphan asked the SNC secretariat to take those issues into consideration, then present their findings for an examination and decision by the SNC.

Communique Issued

BK2204075092 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 22 Apr 92

["Communique of the meeting of the Supreme National Council on 20 March [as heard] 1992;" read by announcer]

[Text] On 20 March [as heard] 1992 at 1500, the Cambodian Supreme National Council [SNC] met under the lofty chairmanship of His Royal Highness [HRH] Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and SNC chairman, with the participation of Yasushi Akashi, special representative of the UN secretary general and chief of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC].

Also present at the meeting were representatives of the five countries, permanent members of the UN Security Council [UNSC], representative of Indonesia, cochairman of the Paris conference on Cambodia, and a number of observers.

1. Review of new developments; addresses by HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk and Akashi.

The SNC and UNTAC reviewed the latest developments of the Cambodian situation including the appeal by the UN secretary general on 20 March [as heard] 1992 for voluntary funds to rehabilitate Cambodia, and the mission of UN officials investigating the case of persons missing in fighting in Kompong Thom.

2. The organization and role of a mine center in Cambodia; addresses by HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Akashi, Khieu Samphan, and Hun Sen.

Akashi expressed remarks on the use of associations' rights and proposed the establishment of an association

called Mine Center in Cambodia. The SNC agreed in principle on the remarks and the establishment of the Mine Center in Cambodia.

3. The examination of the electoral draft law; addresses by HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Akashi, Hor Namhong, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, Hun Sen, and Son Sann.

Akashi provided answers to questions raised by SNC members on UNTAC's (?proportional) elections. The debate focused on many aspects of the electoral draft law, including the use of HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk's picture during the electoral campaign and the voting rights of Cambodian residents abroad. There is no agreement yet on this issue.

4. The establishment of garrisons and checkpoints; addresses by HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Akashi, Lieutenant General Sanderson, Son Sann, and Khieu Samphan.

Lt. Gen. Sanderson announced the deployment of UNTAC troops and talked about the situation relating to the locations of garrisons and setting up preliminary checkpoints. It should be noted that the decision ought to be made in the second phase of the cease-fire at the beginning of June; this should be announced four weeks in advance.

A proposal relating to the SNC role and the creation of a neutral political atmosphere was made at this meeting.

5. Creation of favorable conditions in Cambodia; addresses by HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk and Akashi.

Akashi thanked HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk for the announcement saying that UNTAC can use three buildings for accommodation belonging to one party among all the parties. Akashi handed over to the prince the draft agreement between the SNC and UNTAC [words indistinct].

6. [passage indistinct] Akashi handed over the draft announcement of the SNC relating to the principle recognizing the similarity between [words indistinct] and the conditions of Cambodian refugees. No members at the meeting objected to the announcement. Akashi [words indistinct] of UNTAC relating to protests concerning human rights. This principle was adopted by the majority of SNC members.

The next meeting will be held on 7 May 1992 at 0900.

Sihanouk Leaves for Medical Checkup in PRC

BK2104120692 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1112 GMT 21 Apr 92

[Text] Phnom Penh 21 Apr (SPK)—Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Cambodian Supreme National Council [SNC], left Tuesday [21 April] morning for a medical checkup in China, planned since March but [words indistinct] to now because of (?unexpected situation) in the country following violations of the peace agreement by the Khmer Rouge.

Accompanied by his spouse Princess Monique, the prince (?will) attend the celebration marking the 60th anniversary of the North Korean Army at the invitation of North Korean leaders.

The former Cambodian monarch recently concluded a visit to China at the head of an SNC delegation comprising the principal members of this body including Prime Minister Hun Sen [words indistinct] North Korean President Kim Il-song. It was the first visit abroad by the prince since his return home on 14 November after 13 years in exile.

Before his departure, he presided over an SNC meeting in Phnom Penh during which he and other SNC members signed in the presence of UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus Ghali, two important conventions on human rights.

Further on Khmer Rouge Allowing UN Into Zones

BK2204061692 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0410 GMT 22 Apr 92

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK April 22—The Khmer Rouge have invited UN peacekeepers to inspect limited areas within their zones, clearing the way for the second phase of the UN operation, AFP [Agence France-Press] quoted UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] Chief Yasushi Akashi as saying Tuesday.

"It's not a revolutionary breakthrough, but it's a positive step forward," Akashi, the head of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia, told AFP.

He was attending a departure ceremony for Prince Norodom Sihanouk, who left for a medical checkup in Beijing and to attend the anniversary of North Korea's military forces at the invitation of Kim Il-song. He is due to return May 6.

At a Supreme National Council (SNC) meeting late Monday, Khmer Rouge Leader Khieu Samphan invited UNTAC to survey five sites in areas it controls for the cantonment of its military forces under UN supervision.

If all inspections are carried out by the end of April, it clears the way for the declaration of the second phase of UNTAC—the demobilization and cantonment of forces.

UNTAC needs to give the factions four weeks notice, and if the declaration is not made by May 1, it pushes back the whole process.

"This is why the action of the Khmer Rouge was so important in making this move," said a Western diplomat who attended the meeting.

Previously the faction had refused such access until UNTAC could verify the withdrawal of foreign forces from Cambodia.

Khmer Rouge leaders believe there have been Vietnamese troops inside Cambodia since their invasion in 1978, but Hanoi insists that all withdrew in 1989.

Khieu Samphan in his statement said he was grateful for the first few UNTAC border checkpoints designed to verify the withdrawal.

The loosening of the Khmer Rouge position was "partly" due to the visit of UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus Ghali which ended Monday, Akashi said.

Diplomats said he took a hard line with the factions, telling them that if they didn't cooperate with the peace agreement, there were plenty of other countries in the world where UN money could be better spent.

Akashi at one point had threatened the Khmer Rouge with UN Security Council action if they were not more open with their territory.

But Phnom Penh Foreign Minister Hor Namhong said he was skeptical of the Khmer Rouge statement, and that their new openness would have to be seen to be believed.

"Declaring is one thing, but implementing is another," he said in an interview. "The Khmer Rouge have to show they will do what they have said, but in the past what they say is one thing and what they do is another."

Also at the SNC meeting the Khmer Rouge declared they want all internal factional frontiers abolished and urged that the SNC should take more administrative control.

"On the contrary, the Khmer Rouge should open their zone more. They are the ones who are still keeping their border," Hor Namhong countered.

The Paris peace agreements ending the Cambodian civil war leave the Phnom Penh government structure in place over about 80 percent of the country.

The Khmer Rouge, along with Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) Leader Son Sann, want the SNC to have the control.

"The SNC is not a government," Hor Namhong said. "The Paris agreements are very clear about the SNC's role."

The SNC groups the four factions in a UN-administered body that represents the sovereignty of Cambodia. It makes decisions on large questions of policy but leaves day-to-day governing to the factions within their own zones.

Also at the SNC meeting, the Cambodian Mine Action Center was established in principle. The center would take a long-term approach to the de-mining of Cambodia.

The next SNC meeting is scheduled for May 7.

Refugees Intimidation in Sisophon Camp Viewed

BK1904080092 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 18 Apr 92

[Text] According to reports from Sisophon District in Battambang Province, the Vietnamese aggressors and the Phnom Penh side have dispatched forces to carry out activities to frighten refugees who recently returned to Cambodia in accordance with the Paris agreement. The reports say that during daytime, Vietnam and the Phnom Penh side send the A-3 police to intimidate and question refugees; at night, forces are dispatched to rob refugees of their property and belongings. This has made refugees destitute like baby birds deprived of their parents.

The report further says that a number of refugees who have arrived at temporary camps in Sisophon have fled back to the border because of the atmosphere of constant insecurity and terrorism in which they live. People in the Sisophon camp look constantly sad; some have tears in their eyes like baby birds anticipating that they would be snatched and eaten by vultures.

Why is this? This is because:

1. The Supreme National Council [SNC] and the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] are not playing their role as state authority in Cambodia during the transitional period;

2. Vietnamese have been allowed to scatter all over Cambodia and the Phnom Penh side has been left to direct everything in Cambodia.

Therefore, to end the bad situation in the Sisophon camp:

1. The SNC and UNTAC have to genuinely play their role as state authority during the transitional period as stipulated in the Paris agreement;

2. The Vietnamese aggressors should be controlled and ensured that they are out of Cambodia; control should also be carried out on the dissolution of all four Cambodian parties' Armed Forces.

Only this way can refugees safely return home, can all of them return, and can the entire Cambodian nation and people have peace with independence.

Vietnamese Authority Still in Control

BK2104074292 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 20 Apr 92

[Unattributed commentary: "Only when there is a neutral political atmosphere in Phnom Penh and the provinces can the Cambodian people have a chance to freely exercise their right to self-determination"]

[Text] Over more than four months after the Paris agreement, there is still no neutral political atmosphere in Phnom Penh and the provinces. The state authority in Phnom Penh and the provinces remains that of the Vietnamese aggressors since 1979. The entire Cambodian people need to implement the agreement correctly so that the people can freely and justly exercise their right to self-determination.

However, to this day the state authority in Phnom Penh and the provinces is still in the hands of the Vietnamese aggressors and the Phnom Penh side. Thus, can the

Supreme National Council [SNC] and the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] effectively carry out their duties in accordance with the rights and power stated in the agreement? Can there be a neutral political atmosphere for the Cambodian people to exercise their right to self-determination? No.

On 27 November, Vietnam orchestrated the attack on the house of Their Excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen, SNC members. In December, mass demonstrations against the Vietnamese aggressors' regime were repressed. Later, politicians have been successively assassinated. The SNC and UNTAC did nothing at all in Phnom Penh and the provinces.

If the state authority since 1979 continues to decide everything at will in Phnom Penh and the provinces, the statements on maintaining peace and independence for the Cambodian people and on the people exercising their right to self-determination exist only on paper; they are meaningless.

Detailed Allegations of SRV Troops in North

BK1804125992 Hong Kong AFP in English 0723 GMT 18 Apr 92

[Text] Phnom Penh, April 18 (AFP)—The anti-communist Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) alleged Saturday that Vietnamese troops are hiding out in northern Cambodia.

The KPNLF, one of the three resistance factions that tried to oust the Hanoi-installed Phnom Penh Government in more than a decade of civil war, said in its weekly KP Bulletin that the Vietnamese were living in two provinces in northern Cambodia.

The report said that in north central Stung Treng, 150 Vietnamese, or "yuon," soldiers were studying the Khmer language and were living south of a factory in the town itself.

"Yuon" is the pejorative name, literally meaning "savage," that Cambodians call their Vietnamese neighbors.

"The smallest rank is under-lieutenant and ranges up to colonel," the KP Bulletin said.

It also said that in the northeasternmost province of Ratanakiri, "a lot of yuon soldiers hide themselves as yuon civilians and make business."

The KPNLF, along with the Khmer Rouge, has continually charged that Vietnamese troops are still present and fighting in Cambodia.

Vietnam, which invaded in 1978 to oust the Khmer Rouge and install the Phnom Penh Government, has said repeatedly that it withdrew all its forces in 1989.

The United Nations, which is supervising Cambodia in its transition to peace following the end of the civil war last year, is responsible for verifying that all foreign forces—especially the Vietnamese—have withdrawn and not returned to Cambodia.

While some officers have reported seeing Vietnamese troops, the official UN position is that there is no evidence of a Vietnamese military presence in Cambodia.

The United Nations has said it cannot investigate vague charges made by resistance factions, but needs to be given specific locations to check for a Vietnamese presence.

UN Says Police Used Force at Demonstration

BK2204091492 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 22 Apr 92

[Text] Reports reaching the newsroom of the Voice of the Khmer [VOK] radio say the human rights office of the UN peacekeeping force in Cambodia yesterday has claimed that the Vietnamese-installed regime in Phnom Penh used brute and excessive force against demonstrators in a village near Phnom Penh, killing at least one person. A number of people were also wounded.

Dennis McNamara, chief of the Human Rights Organization of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC], said a number of Cambodians staged a demonstration on land ownership. He said the Phnom Penh regime's police opened fire on the demonstrators. He said this fully violated human rights. McNamara, chief of the Human Rights Organization of UNTAC, has discussed these violations with the local authority of the Vietnamese-installed regime. McNamara said UNTAC police has been deployed in the area where the incident took place. The reports say one was killed and a number wounded.

According to reports reaching the VOK newsroom, there are frequent land ownership disputes because some soldiers of the Vietnamese-installed regime, who are worried they may be demobilized soon, have built homes on land they thought did not belong to anyone.

Chinese Troops Join UN Peacekeeping Force

BK2104074092 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 20 Apr 92

[Text] On 16 April, the spokesman of the Chinese Foreign Ministry announced that the PRC Government has decided to send a (?97)-strong military observer team and 400 engineering troops to join UN peacekeeping force in Cambodia.

The spokemsan said that this is the first time that China has dispatched troops abroad to take part in UN peacekeeping operations. This benefits peace and progress in Cambodia and Southeast Asia. It also reflects the stance and desire of the Chinese Government to maintain world peace and to constantly support a solution to the Cambodian problem in accordance with the Paris agreement on Cambodia.

Indonesia

Jakarta Opposes U.S. Senators' Timor Visit

BK2104160092 Hong Kong AFP in English 0823 GMT 21 Apr 92

[Text] Jakarta, April 21 (AFP)—Jakarta opposed Tuesday a plan by two U.S. senators to visit the former Portuguese colony of East Timor.

"We do not approve it... If it is not necessary, what for (would they go there)?" State Secretary Minister Murdiono told journalists after a welcoming ceremony for visiting Australian Premier Paul Keating at the state palace.

Murdiono said the two senators, Claiborne Pell of the Senate's Foreign Relations Committee, and David Boren of the Senate's Select Committee on Intelligence, were due to arrive here Thursday.

U.S. Embassy spokesman Richard Gong, contacted Tuesday, declined to confirm the senators' visit.

Murdiono did not say what the purpose of the visit was but that they had expressed a wish to meet with President Suharto. A convenient time was being sought for the meeting, he added.

The minister said the senators had also said they wanted to visit Dili, the main city of the former Portuguese colony of East Timor that Jakarta declared its 27th province in 1976.

Washington recognizes Jakarta's de facto integration of East Timor into Indonesia while rejecting the Indonesian claim that a self-determination process has taken place. The United Nations still views Lisbon as the administrator of its former colony.

Press reports here quoted diplomats as saying that the U.S. senators intended to assess conditions in Indonesia preceding the parliamentary elections scheduled for June 9 and the election of a president for the next five-year term to begin in 1993.

Suharto, 70, has run unopposed for the presidency since he came to power in 1967 and has not indicated whether he will run for the next term. Many observers here believe he will.

Murdiono also confirmed that U.S. Defence Secretary Dick Cheney would visit Indonesia soon but added that a time for the visit was still being sought.

Cheney is likely to start a trip that will bring him to Indonesia, Singapore, and Australia at the end of this month or early in May, diplomats here have said.

Reportage on Australian Prime Minister's Visit

Suharto Addreses State Banquet

BK2104160192 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1500 GMT 21 Apr 92

[Text] President Suharto said that human rights, democracy, and freedom that originated from external sources will not breed healthily in a nation. He said this in his speech at a state banquet, hosted in honor of visiting Australian Prime Minister and Mrs. Annita Keating which is underway at the State Palace tonight.

President Suharto also said that Indonesia is open to criticism, but not when the criticism is thrown in only to exaggerate weaknesses in Indonesia's national development, and tending towards interference into the country's internal affairs is another thing. He reiterated that every nation and state had their pride which no one could bargain with.

At news time, Prime Minister Keating is still delivering his speech.

Present at the state banquet were Mrs. Tien Suharto, Vice President and Mrs. Sudharmono, and other senior government officials. The event was preceeded by an exchange of presents.

President Suharto presented a gold studded Bali dagger to Prime Minister Keating. Keating presented books on Australia and a silver flower vase to the president.

Mrs. Suharto presented Mrs. Annita Keating with a silver dinner set, a batik dress, and books on Indonesia. Mrs. Keating presented women's accessories as a gift to Mrs. Suharto.

Murdiono Says Visit Significant

BK2104130492 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0946 GMT 21 Apr 92

[Text] Jakarta, April 21 (OANA-ANTARA)—State Minister/Secretary Murdiono said that the on-going state visit by Australian Prime Minister Paul John Keating to Indonesia remains significant economically although he does not come with his economic ministers.

There is no reasons whatsoever that may degrade the significance of the visit, Murdiono told journalists after attending the state arrival ceremony for Prime Minister Keating, at the Istana Merdeka here on Tuesday.

This state visit, which will last until Friday, is the first ever by Keating, who replaced Bob Hawke as premier last December.

Murdiono said that every state visit by a foreign head of government is a new momentum that may encourage cooperation relations in the future, including economic relations.

I always look at the visit by a head of government as momentum. However, it does not necessarily mean that after the meeting everything can be further developed, he asserted.

He added that during the courtesy call made by Prime Minister Keating on President Suharto, the two leaders were involved in an amicable and friendly atmosphere.

The courtesy call was among the main programs Keating, 48, had after arriving with his wife Annita at Halim Perdanakusuma airbase here earlier.

He was welcomed by Foreign Minister Ali Alatas.

He is to make a courtesy call on Vice President Sudharmono in the evening, before a state dinner held in his honor.

The two heads of governments, Murdiono added, at first indulged in a conversation on the weather and climate and it grew more interesting when President Suharto touched upon subjects related to the climate and agriculture.

A spell of tropical showers fell around the State Palace compounds, just minutes before Prime Minister Keating reached the colonial-styled building from the airbase.

The minister considered the talks an important start for the official talks between the two, slated for Wednesday morning.

He declined, however, to elaborate on the possible subjects of discussion the two might have in their meeting.

In a recent major speech at the Asia-Australia Institute in Sydney, Keating pointed out that Australia's economic engagement with Asia is more advanced than sometimes realized.

More than 60 percent of Australia's merchandise exports now go to Asia, with ASEAN as a particular point as this grouping poses as Canberra's second largest export market, ahead of the United States and European Community.

The accumulative trade between Australia and Indonesia alone now stands at 3.4 trillion rupiahs (approximately 1.7 billion US dollars).

Alatas Holds Talks With Keating

BK2204034892 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 22 Apr 92

[Text] Foreign Minister Ali Alatas has urged Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating to establish solid pillars of cooperation between Indonesia and Australia so the two countries' attention will no longer be focussed on negative issues which may strain existing cordial relations. Speaking to reporters after he held talks with Paul Keating in Jakarta yesterday, Minister Alatas stressed that nothing could rock such solid pillars of bilateral cooperation. Alatas noted that his 90-minute talks with the Australian prime minister were focussed on bilateral issues.

During the talks, Paul Keating reiterated his stand he once made in Australia that he considered Indonesia as an important country in the Asia-Pacific region and that his country wanted to establish strong foundations for bilateral relations not only for the present, but also for the future.

Keating's Visit Seen As Beginning

BK2204100592 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 22 Apr 92

[Text] Bomer Pasaribu, deputy secretary to the United Development parliamentary faction, has described Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating's current visit to Indonesia as the beginning of a new era of bilateral relations. The visit to Indonesia, which is Paul Keating's first overseas tour since he assumed the post of Australian prime minister, reflects the special ties between the two countries. Both Indonesia and Australia attach special significance to the current visit.

Bomer Pasaribu, who also serves as secretary general of the All-Indonesian Trade Union, notes that bilateral economic relations have improved tremendously as seen from the growing Australian investment in Indonesia, which stands at more than $1 billion. Bilateral trade volume has also increased recently and stands at $2.5 billion. He added that while 10 years ago Australia's economic approach was still Western-oriented, it has now turned to the Asia-Pacific region. This is evident from the decreasing trade volume between Australia and Western Europe.

As for Indonesia itself, the visit is very important in the aftermath of the Dili incident, which has attracted the attention of the international community. In this case, Australia has continued to show its understanding of Indonesia's moves. Bomer Pasaribu also pointed out that Australia was the first country to recognize the integration of East Timor into the Republic of Indonesia. Therefore, the visit is indeed an excellent signal for the two nations to enter a new chapter in their bilateral relations.

Extradition, Economic Pacts Signed

BK2204100192 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0700 GMT 22 Apr 92

[Text] Indonesia and Australia today signed an agreement on extradition so that those involved in criminal cases who escape from Indonesia to Australia, or vice versa, will have no chance to avoid facing the law. The agreement—signed by Foreign Minister Ali Alatas and Australian Ambassador to Indonesia Philip Flood at the Merdeka Palace, Jakarta—is based on general principles recognized in national and international law. Included in the general principles is the following: Crimes committed by the person to be extradited must be a breach of both Indonesian and Australian law. Those guilty of political crimes are not subject to extradition and the country that is asked to deport the criminal has the right to refuse to surrender its citizen. Also, a person cannot be sentenced more than once for the same crime.

An agreement on the avoidance of double taxation was also signed today. This is to encourage Australian businessmen to invest in Indonesia.

Another agreement reached today is a cooperation accord in the fishery sector designed to serve as an umberella for other agreements.

The two countries also agreed to expand cooperation in science and the transfer of technology involving fishery matters, including exchanges of information and training of fisheries personnel.

Dailies Hail Asian Emphasis of Visit

BK2204100392 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 22 Apr 92

[From the press reivew]

[Text] ANGKATAN BERSENJATA describes Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating's current visit to Indonesia as a manifestation of an Asian-oriented way of thinking, which is suitable to President Suharto's way of thinking. This daily even says that if Keating indeed lives up to his remarks that Australia will not be British-oriented and prefers to be independent-minded and Asian-oriented, Australia will most likely withdraw from the Commonwealth and become a republic.

Meanwhile, PELITA describes Australia's positive stand toward Indonesia as beneficial to Australia's future. Such a stand is better than sowing a sense of distrust and hostility toward Indonesia. This daily points out that good relations between Indonesia and Australia have existed since Indonesia began its independence movement. Therefore, Paul Keating's visit can be viewed as a more mature attitude toward several past incidents that once strained bilateral relations.

Vice President Returns From Regional Visits

BK2104092492 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0700 GMT 21 Apr 92

[Excerpt] Vice President Sudharmono and his entourage returned to Indonesia at about 1344 West Indonesian Time [0644 GMT] today after visiting the PRC, DPRK, and Japan beginning 10 April.

Our correspondent Sudirman Hala is reporting on the arrival of the vice president and his entourage live from Halim Perdanakusumah Airport.

[Begin recording] [Hala] Japan was the last country visited by Vice President Sudharmono. After flying for more than six hours in Garuda Indonesian Airways plane from Haneda Airport, Vice President and Mrs. Sudharmono arrived in Jakarta at noon today. On their arrival at the Halim Perdanakusumah Airport, Vice President and Mrs. Sudharmono were welcomed by high-level officials. [passage omitted] [end recording].

Commodities Forced To Subdue To Policies

BK2104093092 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0750 GMT 21 Apr 92

[Text] Jakarta, Apr 21 (OANA-ANTARA)—Indonesian commodities in the international markets have been forced to subdue to the developed countries' protective policies, junior minister for trade, Sudrajad Jiwandono, said here on Monday.

Protective policies especially those in the forms of trade blocs, quota restriction, and dumping accusation have made Indonesian products rather uncompetitive, he said.

Things become more difficult when the advanced nations include the issues of politics and human rights in their economic policies.

Indonesia, as a result, has to shoulder a heavy burden as its sources of development funds also come from export activities, he told a workshop on agribusiness development.

He pointed out that since indonesia wanted to be an industrial nation and supported by a powerful agriculture sector it must take part actively and systematically in international commodities agreement, besides making breakthroughs to expand its markets.

Indonesia has to be strong in the negotiation rounds of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and Uruguay round so that they will help international trade system, which are free, open, and fair for all nations.

Jiwandono believed agricultural processed products have a bright prospect.

Laos

Rice Production Target for 1992 Season Set

BK2104124092 Vientiane KPL in English 0914 GMT 21 Apr 92

[Text] Vientiane, April 21 (KPL)—Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Forestry Kham-ouan Boupha, in his interview to PASASON's correspondent on April 18, said that for the 1992 cultivation season the entire country will try to turn out about 1.6 million tons of rice, achieving self-sufficiency in food with some surplus.

To that end, he said the government had to put capital, labor and expertise into agricultural production in all areas throughout the country so as to make rice production movement more active and extensive than the previous years while adopting six main plains—Vientiane, Paksan, Se Bangfai, Se Banghiang, Sedon, and Champassak—as pilot areas.

The intensive cultivation areas are divided into three categories: the first set at 65,000 hectares, where irrigation is favorable, with an expected yield of 4.7 to 5 tons per ha [hectare]; the second at 100,000 hectares with an output of 3.7 tons per ha; and the third at 235,000 hectares with an output of 2.5 tons per ha. In addition,

the deputy minister said all the provinces had to channel all potentials into agricultural production and animal raising for export.

Agricultural and forestry production must be linked and paired with rural development. This actually means expanding commercial production starting from the farmer families themselves under a comprehensive economic development project. In this connection, the government will focus on three major areas—Champassak District of Champassak Province, Khamkeut District of Bolikhamsai Province, Nasaithong and Phialat Districts of Vientiane Municipality.

Dry Season Rice Output in Vientiane To Drop

BK2104102192 Vientiane KPL in English 0927 GMT 21 Apr 92

[Text] Vientiane, 21 April (KPL)—The dry season rice production in Vientiane Province is likely to reach only 2.5 tons per hectare [ha] instead of three tons as anticipated.

The lack of water and fertilizer causes a major problem to rice cultivation in the locality. Though the irrigation network is widespread, it still does not cover the whole rice fields in the province. For example, Phonhong District, one of the major rice baskets, having some 3,000 ha under rice, has not sufficient irrigation network totalling over 10,000 meters long.

1992 Export Problems in Champassak Noted

BK2104121492 Vientiane KPL in English 0919 GMT 21 Apr 92

[Text] Vientiane, April 21 (KPL)—The provincial trade service of Champassak this year plans to step up its export value to 13,383 million kip which will be deducted to the state budget by 1,370 million kip, while last year the export value amounted to 6,574 million kip and the contrubution to the state budget was 1,451 million kip.

At present, Champassak has authorised 16 companies to do export-import business.

Although its export-import business was quite successful last year, still this southern province seems to face a trouble this year since Decree No. 67/PM [prime minister] on ending timber exploitation throughout the country is still effective. And the fact is that last year, timber, about 24,760 cubic metres [and] a major export of the province apart from coffee, generated an income of 3,037 million kip to the province.

This year, Champassak has worked out an action plan indicating that the contribution to the state budget will drop by some 80 million kip against last year despite an increase in export volume of 50 percent. Consequently, the province tries to find out what export can replace timber to fulfill the export value set at 13,383 million kip.

Philippines

U.S. Pressed To Form Subic Withdrawal Panel

HK2204082992 Quezon City MALAYA in English 22 Apr 92 p 7

[By Chit Estella]

[Text] Malacanang insisted yesterday on the need for the United States to form a withdrawal committee that will coordinate with its Philippine counterpart in supervising and monitoring the phaseout of American military facilities from Subic Naval Base.

Executive Secretary Franklin Drilon said such a committee was needed to "coordinate withdrawal plans."

When asked if the "conversations" offered by U.S. Ambassador Frank Wisner would suffice, Drilon said, "Of course not!"

Wisner told reporters he cannot convene a withdrawal committee on the U.S. side.

But he gave the assurance he was ready to meet with anyone interested in the status of the pullout.

This was based on Wisner's reported position that the withdrawal of U.S. forces and facilities was a unilateral concern of his government.

The Philippines has been insisting on the formation of such a committee, saying this was provided for by the Manglapus-Shultz Agreement.

Malacanang also said it wanted coordination with the U.S. in order that the phase-in of commercial ventures could be undertaken along with the phaseout of U.S. facilities.

President Aquino already formed such a committee headed by Alejandro Melchor, former ambassador to Moscow.

But Melchor reportedly complained that no similar move was being made by the U.S.

Indonesia Willing To Mediate in Spratlys Issue

HK2204050892 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 0400 GMT 22 Apr 92

[Text] President Aquino conferred today with an eight-man delegation from the Indonesian House of Representatives. During a press interview, Representative (Theo Sambaga) said Indonesia is prepared to mediate a settlement of the conflicting claims to the Spratly Islands by the ASEAN nations. He said there had been informal discussions on the issue among the foreign ministers in Bali and Bandung last year. He said he hoped there would be a formal settlement discussion on the issue after the July ASEAN ministerial meeting in Manila. Indonesia is the only Southeast Asian nation which is not claiming the Spratlys.

President Aquino told the delegation she hoped to visit Indonesia when her term of office ends on 20 June 1991.

Japanese To Repair Deteriorating Power Plants

HK2104091692 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 21 Apr 92 pp 1, 6

[By Booma Cruz and Maricor Zapata]

[Text] The National Power Corp [NPC] is calling in Japanese experts to help the government deal with the sharply deteriorating power supply, Malacanang said yesterday.

In the next 10 days, rotating brownouts of two hours daily are to occur in Metro Manila and four hours in the provinces serviced by the Luzon grid because two major power plants remain operational, although eight other facilities are operating below capacity.

Malacanang said it could not make any assurance that power outages would not occur on May 11, election day.

Returning from a trip to the U.S., Pablo Malixi, NPC president, told Malacanang the government's bidding system should be blamed for the frequent shutdowns and disrepair of the power plants.

As a result of the bidding system, according to Malixi, materials used for the repair of the plants are usually of substandard quality.

But only last week, Malixi, after being summoned from his U.S. trip by Malacanang, promised Mrs Aquino that the brownouts would be over by the Lenten Season which ended Sunday.

Press Secretary Horacio Paredes said the Japanese experts contracted to repair the plants are from Mitsubishi Corp. and Fuji Corp.

More Japanese experts are expected to arrive tomorrow to repair and rehabilitate the NPC power plants.

Malixi had replaced Ernesto Aboitiz, former NPC chairman and president, for his failure to address the power crisis in Luzon and Mindanao.

Malixi also made a new promise to the President, saying enough power would be available before, "during and after the elections, when the counting of the ballots is supposed to be at its highest."

Paredes, however, said the assurances were made on a "best effort" basis. He admitted it would be difficult for NPC to assure all localities in the country of adequate power supply in case of a plant breakdown on May 11, which he said was possible.

"A power plant breakdown on May 11 is possible. The NPC's aware of the necessity of power, especially after elections when the counting begins. Remember, elections will be throughout the country," Paredes said.

The NPC restored last week eight power plants in Luzon—Malaya 1, Malaya 2, Sucat 1, Sucat 3, Sucat 4, Manila 1, Manila 2 and Calaca 1. These plants capacities, however, are still limited to an average of 70 percent of their normal rated capacities.

NPC is now operating only three of its 10 hydroelectric plants in Luzon.

NPC's system operations department said that out of a total nameplate [preceding word as published] capacity of 1,224 megawatts, NPC's hydropower facilities could now generate only 304 megawatts because of low water level in the reservoirs.

Also, one unit of NPC's Kalayaan hydro plant, with 150-megawatt generating capacity, was unexpectedly shut down Friday due to suspected debris in its draft tube.

The two units of the Kalayaan plant, with a combined capacity of 300 megawatts, were expected to run on full load starting yesterday, since it was given a chance to save enough hydropower during the industries' one-week shutdown.

But only Kalayaan unit 1 could be operated. The NPC said it was forced to cut on repairs because the plants were conking out almost simultaneously. This is to prevent the supply capacity from increasing, the NPC technical men said.

In a separate letter to Executive Secretary, Franklin Drilon, Malixi cited that NPC's Malaya thermal plan unit 1 was generating only 220 megawatts of power out of a nameplate capacity of 300 megawatts due to weak waterwall tubes. Malaya 2 is limited to 170 megawatts, though its nameplate capacity is 350 megawatts. This is due to weak boil-tubes, he said.

Korean Firms To Expand Operations

HK2204082092 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 22 Apr 92 p B-6

[By Ronaldo N. Zamora]

[Text] Several Philippine-based Korean firms plan to expand operations within this year after a "satisfactory operations" in the country last year.

Korean Trade Commissioner Jae Kuen Ahn [name as published] revealed the firms, led by biggest Korean investor in the country Best Chemicals and Plastics Inc, are "expanding capacity to produce more products, many of which are for export."

Ahn disclosed plans by Best Chemical to invest $10 million more in addition to the company's $35 million worth of total investment in its existing plant in Clarmona, Rizal.

Best Chemical, which produces packaging films used for commercial products such as cigarettes, exports mostly

to the United States and Korea. Only 20 percent of its output is sold domestically, Ahn added.

Korean electronic firm Maxon Systems Phils. Inc. and Pilcork Business Integrated, a garments firm, are also planning to expand operations, according to Ahn.

On the projected entry of offshore Korean investors in the country this year, Ahn revealed that South Korean investors are looking for possible investment in projects involving the exploitation of "natural resources." He said interets from Korean investors to invest in iron ore and coal projects, among other raw materials, for export to Korea, could be expected within the year.

Ahn, however, added that these offshore investors are also looking to the rest of the region for new sites. He said Vietnam, Pakistan and Bangladesh are also under consideration.

Ahn pointed out that the anticipated transfer of investments elsewhere in Asia (including the Philippines) is due to the already-crowded Korean investment situation in certain countries in the region such as Indonesia and Thailand.

The high-ranking embassy official however stressed that the new investors will consider two most important factors in assessing new sites; political stability and security (to investments).

He listed other economic factors or cost of doing business as points for consideration—infrastructure, wages and rent.

Ahn also added power supply and cost in the list, adding the recent power shortages in the country has posed serious problems in effectively attracting new Korean capitalists in the country.

Explaining that while the country's power cost, which is relatively more expensive compared to its Asean neighbors, is a consideration, the supply of power is even a more basic consideration. He added that the recent power outages "were bad" because they resulted in losses to existing investors.

The local power rate cost averaged $0.085 in 1990 as against Malaysia's average of $0.07 and Thailand's $0.06 for the same period.

Further, Ahn said that the government has "to liberalize more of the field for foreign investors."

While the Foreign Investments Act of 1992 "is a good gesture to investors", there is the problem of implementation—"how the system, the rules and regulations can be implemented", Ahn commented.

Further, he pointed out that often investors give up the incentives (provided under the investments act) because of the red tape in the application procedures.

The trade official, however, strongly pointed out that the country has "big potentials", including the very rich supply of skillful and high-education labor. He added the availability of rich natural resources as another good merit for the country as an alternative investment site.

On top of the "merit" list is the strong historical ties between the two countries.

"We owe the Philippines. When in difficulty, during the Korean war, the Philippines helped our country survive communism. Many (Filipino) soldiers sacrificed themselves."

Official Confirms Receiving Coup Reports

HK2104110092 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 21 Apr 92

[Text] Local government Secretary Cesar Sarino today confirmed he has been receiving information on a plan to launch a coup d'etat, termed as: Operation Plan No Election. Tanny Rodriguez reports:

[Begin recording] In an interview, Sarino said that based on this information, launching this operation may occur before or after the 11 May polls. However, Sarino warned the forces planning to launch this move that they will fail again because they will encounter a bigger police force.

Meanwhile, Sarino guaranteed the safety of the commissioners of the Commission on Elections [Comelec] in the face of threats against their lives for carrying out their duties in relation to the coming election. Sarino said the Comelec commissioners will be provided personal security whether they request it or not.

Sarino also called on the Comelec to expand the police's responsibility during the election by assigning them to count votes and protect the ballots. [end recording]

Aquino Names Drilon Head of Transition Committee

HK2104105792 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 21 Apr 92

[Text] President Aquino formally formed a transition committee today, to ensure a smooth turnover of power to the next administration on 30 June this year. Tanny Rodriguez reports:

[Begin recording] Executive Secretary Franklin Drilon will head the transition committee and will be helped by 10 members, including presidential management staffer Aniceto Sobrepena, Deputy Executive Secretary Dionisio dela Serna, and several others. Based on the Memorandum of Order 425, the duties of the transition committee will be to form and implement a plan for the power handover, prepare an organizational transition report and special transition report, and resolve problems that may arise from the preparation of documents needed for the transition. [end recording]

Intention To Accept Results Noted

HK2204073292 Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao Network in Tagalog 0700 GMT 22 Apr 92

[By Rowena Papasin—italicized passages in English]

[Text] Press Secretary Horacio Paredes denied today that President Aquino has said she cannot accept the victory of either Eduardo Danding Cojuangco or Mrs. Imelda Marcos in the presidential race. Paredes stressed that the president will hand power over to whoever wins among the seven presidential candidates, as long as their victory came through election and not by violent means. Paredes admitted that President Aquino will not be happy if Cojuangco or Mrs. Marcos wins. However, Paredes said the president will respect this, if it is the people's will. Paredes added that the president does not consider Cojuangco or Mrs. Marcos as threats to her administration but to the government's democratic system:

[Begin Paredes recording] Shall we call Danding and Imelda the true opposition? *I don't think it is correct to say that they are the true opposition to Mrs. Aquino. I think they are the true opposition to democracy.* They are fascists, so if they are restored to power, the old activities will resume and [words indistinct]. [end recording]

Abadia Warns Rebel Groups May Disrupt Polls

HK2204085992 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 0100 GMT 22 Apr 92

[Text] General Lisandro Abadia, Armed Forces of the Philippines chief of staff, admitted that enemies of the state are still capable of fomenting a crisis; however, they are not capable of overthrowing the incumbent government. The general made this statement at the Legal Management Council of the Philippines meeting at Hotel Nikko Gardens, Makati.

Abadia also said some groups may also carry out terrorist activities in order to disrupt the coming polls. The general identified these groups as the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army; the Muslim separatist movements, comprising the Moro Islamic Liberation Front and the Moro National Liberation Front; and the ultrarightist group of the Reform the Armed Forces Movement-Soldiers of the Filipino People-Young Officers Union.

Disruption Plot Uncovered

HK2204080592 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 22 Apr 92 p 3

[By Manny Mogato—italicized passages published in Tagalog]

[Text] Military intelligence officials have uncovered a pre-elections destabilization plot being planned by right-wing rebels to disrupt next month's general elections, Gen. Lisandro Abadia, the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] Chief of Staff said yesterday.

The plot was first detected from interrogation of two rebel army junior officers who were rearrested for attending "secret" meetings with fugitive military rebel leaders, he added.

Abadia said they have also monitored intensified agitation, propaganda and recruitment activities conducted by right-wing rebels like ex-constabulary Lt. Col. Billy Bibit, ex-constabulary Capt. Leovic Dioneda and other fugitive military rebel officers.

Bibit and Dioneda have been monitored moving around military camps soliciting financial and moral support from active-duty soldiers and civilian supporters, especially businessmen, an intelligence report showed.

Bibit has been monitored inside naval facilities, giving and promising money to soldiers to join another attempt against the Aquino government.

Dioneda, who is running for mayor in his hometown of Bacon, Sorsogon under Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco's Nationalist People's Coalition (NPC), was monitored allegedly giving financial support from money raised from illegal gambling activities.

Two fugitive military rebels, ex-navy Commodore Domingo Calajate and ex-navy Capt. Felix "Boy" Turingan, have been identified as leaders of the fresh attempts to destabilize the government and disrupt the May 11 elections.

Abadia said at least 10 lieutenants have been approached by the rebels.

Military and police officials laughed off another attempt to seize power, this time by the military itself, as reported by Nacionalista Party (NP) senatorial candidate Homobono Adaza. The plot is to seize power and prevent the holding of elections next month, Adaza said.

The military and police officials described as "incredible and fantastic" Adaza's allegations that martial law would be imposed to stop the elections.

"That's a very wild rumor and there's no grain of truth to it," Abadia said. "*It's been a long time since I and Secretary Ramos saw each other,*" he added, saying the people should not listen to this kind of stories.

"*They just want to confuse the people,*" he added.

For his part, Philippine National Police (PNP) director-general Cesar Nazareno said: "There is no truth to it. I am not a party to any triumvirate. I am just doing my duty as chief of the PNP to ensure that the forthcoming polls will be orderly and peaceful."

Military leaders challenged Adaza to show proof and produce the supposed memorandum outlining the plans to suspend the elections and grab power.

Both officials assured the public they remained loyal to the Constitution and would do their best to ensure a smooth and peaceful transition of power in June.

They said there might be some planned destabilization attempts from right-wing groups but this would not stop the elections because they said the right-wing forces don't have the capability to grab power nor disrupt the elections on May 11.

200,000 Peso Bail for Rebel Leader Upheld

HK2204064092 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 22 Apr 92 p 12

[By Lynette A. Baldivino]

[Text] A Pasig regional trial court judge reaffirmed his earlier decision to grant bail in Romulo Kinranar, suspected chief of the New People's Army [sentence as published].

In a four-page order, Judge Apolonio Chavez denied a motion for reconsideration filed by military counsel, Col Virgilio Saldajeno, after he failed to present evidence that Kintanar illegally possessed firearms upon his arrest March 1988.

Kintanar and his wife Gloria Jopson, Marco Palo, Rafael Baylosis and Benjamin de Yera are charged with illegal possession of firearms in furtherance of rebellion, insurrection and subversion. The offense is unbailable.

"I appreciate the decision of the court, which recognized my constitutional right to bail," said Kintanar who was present during the hearing.

But Kintanar expressed apprehension that the military officials might file other charges against him to prevent him from being released.

Kintanar and his four co-accused were arrested in a plush apartment in San Juan in 1988, but Kintanar and Jopson escaped the following November during a party for the warden of the Camp Crame stockade. They were recaptured last Aug 5 at the Makati Medical Center while visiting an eye doctor.

Kintanar said a copy of the court order has been furnished the jail custodian of the Intelligence Service Group compound in Fort Bonifacio where he is detained.

Saldajeno said he plans to bring the case to the Supreme Court.

"We are ready with whatever action the military might undertake," defense counsel Pedro Cuadra said.

Saldajeno also questioned judge's decision to lower the bail to P200,000 [Philippine pesos] from P350,000, saying that it was too low since Kintanar and Jopson escaped detention.

Chavez ordered Kintanar to report to the branch clerk of court every 15 days until a decision have been reached on his case.

Caller Warns of Bomb Explosion at Radio DZXL

HK2104073992 Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao Network in Tagalog 0725 GMT 21 Apr 92

[Flash report by Rene Sta. Cruz]

[Text] This is a flash report: Three of our telephone lines, line 7, 8 and 9 which are our hot lines, have continuously been bothered by calls from an unidentified man saying that at about 1600 the 15th floor of the Philcomcen [Philippine Communication Center] will explode. DZXL, WKC and other radio stations are located at the 15th floor of the Philcomcen building. We have received four calls since 1430, the latest of which was at 1520 today. I repeat, an unidentified man has been calling asking if the DZXL radio station is located at the 15th floor of the Philcomcen building and after we confirmed this, he said that at 1600 today the DZXL will explode. According to Melody Santiago, who has been receiving the calls, she can hear the sound of buses passing by from the area where the calls were made.

Thailand

UN Secretary General's Activities Reported

BK2104145192 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 1200 GMT 21 Apr 92

[Text] Acting Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin answered questions from newsmen after UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus Ghali called on Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun at Government House this afternoon. He said the UN secretary general's visit to this region demonstrates the importance it attaches to the area and its strong desire to see peace materialize. He said the UN will have to spend more than $500 million for reconstruction in Cambodia, adding that the secretary general will have to convince UN members countries of the importance of its role and of peace in that country. He said the Cambodian issue will serve as a test as to whether the peace process employed by the UN will be effective in resolving conflicts.

Asa said Thailand asked the UN secretary general to speed up the repatriation of 350,000 Cambodian refugees to alleviate the burden they have caused. Moreover, the repatriated refugees will have the chance to exercise their voting rights next year. Asa noted that Thailand has assisted in highway construction and clearing landmines. Thai personnel at those missions are part of the UN contingent in Cambodia.

Meanwhile, Sarot Chawanawirat, the deputy permanent secretary of the Foreign Ministry for political affairs, reported on the UN secretary general's courtesy call on the prime minister. He said the UN secretary general said the Cambodian people must play a part in creating peace in their country. The UN secretary general noted that with the signing of the peace agreement in Paris,

every party has to honor it in order to fulfil the agreement's objectives. He added that there would be considerable expenses for the UN peacekeeping force and noted that the reconstruction will require about $600 million. If the Cambodians do not help the peace process, this sum would probably not be forthcoming because the UN has the peacekeeping responsibilities in other parts of the world as well. The secretary general thanked Thailand for its continued participation in the peace process in Cambodia.

According to Sarot, the secretary general said he has asked Burma and Bangladesh to hold a dialogue over the influx of Burmese refugees into Bangladesh and requested Thailand to support his action. The prime minister told the visitor that Thailand would try to talk with Burma to resolve this matter. Anan also asked the UN to help finalize the GATT negotiations by the end of this year in order to avoid more global trade problems.

Interviewed on Cambodia, Burma

BK2204054992 Bangkok THE NATION in English 22 Apr 92 p A6

["Excerpts" of 21 April interview with United Nations Secretary General Butrus Butrus Ghali in Bangkok by THE NATION editor Thepchai Yong]

[Text] [Thepchai] What is your assessment of the political situation in Cambodia? Have you become more optimistic about its future after your visit there?

[Ghali] I spent many hours with Prince (Norodom) Sihanouk and leaders of all the different factions. I also had talks with UNTAC chief Yashushi Akashi and leaders of various, non-governmental organizations. The result of my trip is very positive. There is a political will among the leaders of the different factions to promote reconciliation. There is a perfect synchronization among different agencies.

I am optimistic and I told the faction leaders that they have the responsibility to carry out reconciliation. We (the UN) cannot do the work for them. We are in Cambodia to help in their rehabilitation and bring back the refugees. Political will among the Cambodians is a must for national reconciliation.

[Thepchai] Are you optimistic that the election will be held as planned?

[Ghali] I believe the election will be held in due time as agreed. We are making all efforts to repatriate the refugees so that they can take part in the election.

[Thepchai] You have mentioned that funding is a major problem hampering the reconstruction of Cambodia. How is this being tackled?

[Ghali] I will present a report (on my visit to Cambodia) to the donor countries and I am sure we will be able to obtain the amount of money necessary to finance the peace process and the rehabilitation in the country. The figure we are looking at is around US$560 million.

[Thepchai] What kind of action is being taken by the United Nations in response to human rights abuses in Burma?

[Ghali] My special representative, Ambassador Jan Eliasson, has talked to the foreign ministries of both Myanmar [Burma] and Bangladesh and (I) hope the refugee problem will be settled. We have received a guarantee that the refugees (driven from Burma into Bangladesh over the past several weeks) will be able to return under the supervision of a representative from the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. There is political will on both sides to solve the problem.

Sanctions imposed by Western countries on Myanmar were decisions of individual member states. The Unites Nations' concern is humanitarian.

[Thepchai] How do you see the future role of the United Nations?

[Ghali] In response to the recommendation of the members of the Security Council which held a summit in January, the UN secretary-general drew up a position paper on the UN role in peace-keeping, peace-building and preventive diplomacy. This position paper serves as the basis for the new strategy of the United Nations in dealing with its future peace-keeping operations.

The most important change is that the UN peacekeeping operation will not be limited to peace-keeping but will be extended to the second stage—that is peace-building. Cambodia is a good example. In that country, we are helping in refugee repatriation, participating in the resurrection of the state administration, assisting them in their reconstruction. So we are participating in the second stage of peace operations, peace building. We are also doing this in Central America.

[Thepchai] How does Southeast Asia, once one of the world's trouble spots, fit into the concept of a new world order?

[Ghali] We have troubles in many parts of the world. Our approach (to these problems) is a global approach. The United Nations has gained new credibility because of the end of the Cold War, because of the new cooperation among the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, and because of the new political will favouring the peace role of the United Nations.

What is being described as the new world order is what I believe to be a new role for the United Nations.

Environment and drug (problems) are among the new problems facing the world. And to cope with these new problems the United Nations must have a new approach. This new approach or strategy adopted by the United Nations to cope with those problems, this new credibility of the United Nations, and the new willingness of the member states to use the United Nations to solve international disputes, and problems, are what we may call (the) new international order.

General Suchinda Cabinet Sworn in Before King

BK2104143992 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 21 Apr 92

[Text] At 1745 today, the king granted an audience to members of the National Peace-Keeping Council [NPKC], led by NPKC chairman General Sunthon Khongsomphong. The group called on the king at the termination of office of the NPKC under provisions outlined in the 1991 Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand.

At 1800, Prime Minister General Suchinda Khraprayun led his cabinet ministers for the oath taking before the king prior to their assumption of office. The king delivered a speech to the new cabinet ministers.

[Begin king recording] I beg all of you to bear in mind that working for the common public is not an easy task. Meanwhile, accomplishing this duty will make everyone of you extremely happy as it involves work done in the interests of a large number of people, for the entire nation. I wish all of you good health, will power, and intelligence so you can successfully accomplish your respective responsibilities. From now on, you are formally declared a cabinet. I wish you all success and prosperity. [end recording]

Interview With Prime Minister Suchinda

BK2204081092 Bangkok Army Television Channel 7 in Thai 0220 GMT 22 Apr 92

[Interview with Prime Minister General Suchinda Khraprayun by unidentified correspondents at Government House in Bangkok—live; monitored in progress]

[Text] [Correspondent] What do you regard as unrest?

[Suchinda] For example, inciting people to oppose the government is regarded as an act of creating unrest. We have the House of Representatives. We can air opinions in the Parliament.

[Correspondent] What will you do if unrest occurs?

[Suchinda] One of my duties as the prime minister is to establish order in the country.

[Correspondent] Now, someone has suggested a coup or a parliament dissolution as solutions. Which way will you choose in case of incidents under the democratic system?

[Suchinda] It is still not necessary for me to take any action as suggested. The suggestions are not my thinking. I have formed the government and been sworn into office yesterday. Today is my first day in office. The cabinet will meet this evening. I will go to inspect the hardship of the people in provinces tomorrow. It is impossible to dissolve the parliament or whatever since I have not yet begun my work.

[Correspondent] Someone made these suggestions because they are concerned with the situation.

[Suchinda] I have heard them. I thank them for their concern.

[Correspondent] Some people said that this government cannot last long. M.R. Khukrit Pramot said that the government will not last longer than five months.

[Suchinda] Whether or not the government will last long depends on the government's performance, not on criticism. The government may not be able to survive after one month if it does not have any achievements. The government's performance has to satisfy the people. My position is based on the support of the people.

[Correspondent] The supreme commander said he could not guarantee whether there will be a coup or not.

[Suchinda] That is the view of the supreme commander. I cannot answer this question for him.

[Correspondent] What is your first task today? You have said you will let the government coalition parties propose the government policy statement. Will that take a long time?

[Suchinda] No. We have set a deadline. Each party has already prepared their policy drafts. Since the government comprises several parties, I have the duty to scrutinize and combine the policies of those parties into one policy statement.

[Correspondent] Will there be some major changes?

[Suchinda] We may add some more details, such as environmental preservation and pollution problems which are the major problems of the world.

[Correspondent] What is your policy towards the mass media?

[Suchinda] I had no problem with the mass media when I was the Army commander. So, I will have no problem when I am the prime minister. Does the mass media have any problems with me? I don't know.

[Correspondent] There are some complaints. You may not block the people from receiving news, but I feel that government-run radio and television stations tried not to present the views from the other side.

[Suchinda] This is my first day in office. I have never given any orders to the government-run mass media. You can ask them. You can ask Somkiat Onwimon [TV Channel 5 News Anchormen] how open-minded I am. When I was the chairman of the Army television channel 5 and 7, I allowed them to present news freely.

[Correspondent] Then, the news blackout was the work of your subordinates who have good intentions for you.

[Suchinda] Which superior? I have no superior. I am the highest superior.

[Correspondent] Your former subordinates?

[Suchinda] I do not know who gave the instructions and to where they gave the instructions.

[Correspondent] Can you help instruct them not to block the news in the future if there were really such a case?

[Suchinda] There will be no news blackout. I have a minister to respond to the mass media. It will be his duty.

[Unidentified correspondnet] Can you assure that incidents like that on the night of 16 April will not occur again?

[Suchinda] What was the incident on the night of 16 April?

[Correspondent] Your security men acted too crudely to the correspondents.

[Suchinda] You have to understand how that incident occurred that day. The place was narrow. They carried out their duty as usual. There was also a large number of journalists. Someone pushed from behind and a microphone was almost hitting my mouth.

[Correspondent] Why did they use force without talking with the journalists first?

[Suchinda] It is the duty of the security men to try to protect the person who they are providing security for. I saw them use their arms to protect me normally.

[Correspondent] It means that you still do not admit that your men are wrong.

[Suchinda] I do not admit that they were wrong. They were performing their duty.

[Correspondent] Will there be a live broadcast when the government delivers its policy statement to the parliament?

[Suchinda] I cannot give you an answer by myself. However, the government has no objection to a live broadcast.

[Correspondent] Have you appointed the government spokesman?

[Suchinda] I have made some contacts. But the name still cannot be revealed now because I have not yet met him. It will be not good if I reveal the name and he does not accept the offer. However, I have made my choice.

[Correspondent] Does he come from a political party?

[Suchinda] No, he is a non-partisan. People may not know him.

[Correspondent] When will the government deliver the policy statement?

[Suchinda] I think the government will deliver its policy statement about seven or 10 days from now.

[Correspondent] Why does it have to take such a long time?

[Suchinda] It has to take some time. I have to give the coalition parties about seven days to prepare for the policy statement. It will also take me about two or three days to combine their drafts.

[Correspondent] Are you afraid that the policy statement drafting will be the same as the formation of the cabinet?

[Suchinda] What do you mean by the formation of the government and the policy statement?

[Correspondent] People struggled for ministerial posts in the formation of the government.

[Suchinda] I think that nobody will compete to draft the policy statement.

[Correspondent] What is your economic policy for this government?

[Suchinda] The government will adopt a free economic policy. It will promote the private sector. It will try to find more market and promote exports and investment.

[Correspondent] How much can the policy be trustedsince there is only one professional—Finance Minister Suthi Singsane—in the economic ministerial posts?

[Suchina] We will work as a team. We also have economic advisory teams to provide advice. So, there should be no problem.

[Correspondent] What is the foreign policy?

[Suchinda] The foreign policy will continue as usual. We will attach importance to our neighbors. We will promote economic and trade ties and establish good understanding with them. There are still some problems with neighboring countries which still have not been completely tackled, such as the fishery problem with Vietnam and the problems with Malaysia and Burma. These are the major tasks. We will also promote good relations with our big trade partners and look after the well-being of the Thai people in foreign countries.

[Correspondent] What is your opinion toward outgoing prime minister's exclamation "Ai Ya" when he saw your cabinet line-up?

[Suchinda] You have to ask him. I am not a Chinese and I do not know the word "Ai Ya." [both Suchinda and correspondent laugh]

[Correspondent] What are your measures to ensure that your cabinet ministers are clean from corruption?

[Suchinda] I am the prime minister. Yesterday, I led my cabinet ministers to take an oath before His Majesty the King that every minister will perform their duty with honesty. The oath taking ceremony was made before the King, to whom the Thai people pay their highest respect. I think that the cabinet ministers will remember the oath they took before the King.

[Correspondent] You had supervised the Armed Forces before becoming the prime minister. Can you assure to the people nationwide that there will be no coup under your leadership?

[Suchinda] I am the head of the government. I will be out of the office if there is a coup. So, why would I support a coup?

[Correspondent] This means that you can give assurances on this matter.

[Suchinda] I have the duty to prevent coups because I am the head of the government.

[Correspondent] The supreme commander still could not guarantee this issue during an interview yesterday.

[Suchinda] We have to sympathize with the supreme commander on this issue. There is a principle in the military that nothing can be 100 percent certain.

[Correspondent] Will you continue Prime Minister Chatchai's foreign policy towards Indochina—to change the battlefield to a market place—and will you change the policy on relations with Burma.?

[Suchinda] There will be no problem in my foreign policy. We will follow the policy which is beneficial to the country. In particular, we will promote trade with the Indochinese countries. The issue concerning Burma is complicated. Many western countries have tried to isolate Burma. However, Thailand is a neighbor of Burma and both also share some common interests. It is still necessary to maintain relations with Burma. I think we will still follow the policy laid down by the previous government.

[Unidentified correspondent] Have you decided to resign, as requested, by the opposition and the academics?

[Suchinda] Why would I have to resign since the majority of the political parties chose me as the prime minister and they are the legitimate representatives?

[Unidentified correspondent] Someone has said that most of the support from the majority was obtained through military pressure.

[Suchinda] You should go ask the leaders of the parties that nominated me whether they were forced to support me.

[Unidentified correspondent] What is your forestry policy? A few days ago the agriculture minister said he will allow logging activities.

[Suchinda] Perhaps you and I listen to a different television station. I listened to a program on TV Channel 5 yesterday morning. The agriculture minister said he had no policy to allow logging activities. Did you see that program, and who here is from TV channel 5?

[Unidentified correspondent] Are you confident that your Cabinet will have some accomplishments that will satisfy the people, since the reputations of some in the Cabinet are not so good.

[Suchinda] I am confident because all were selected by their respective parties. They must work for the image of their parties and to prove their ability.

[Unidentified correspondent] How long will it take you to have some achievements?

[Suchinda] That cannot be specified. Some work yields results over long periods. However, we respect the opinions of the people and the mass media. The government will not be able to survive if there is a lot of criticism.

[Unidentified correspondent] There is another question concerning how you will prevent your ministers from engaging in corruption. Every government has taken an oath before taking up its duties. But corruption still exists and some politicians' assets were seized by the Assets Investigation Committee. Can you give clear views on how you will deal with this problem.

[Suchinda] I will try my best to ensure that my Cabinet ministers carry our their work honestly. They will not be able to remain in such important posts if they are corrupted.

[Unidentified correspondent] This means that you are confident that the three ministers whose assets were seized will be cleared of corruption charges.

[Suchinda] I have not said that. That is a matter for the courts. You should not raise such a question. However, in a democratic system they have the right to perform their duties when elected by the people as their representatives.

[Unidentified correspondent] Will it be your mistake if one of the three ministers is ruled guilty by the court?

[Suchinda] It will be the mistake of the people for electing them.

[Unidentified correspondent] Why do you blame the people instead of yourself?

[Suchinda] The people elected them as members of the parliament. Did not the people elect them?

[Unidentified corespondent] This is the last question. The people of Bangkok have suffered from the traffic problem. How does your government intend to solve this problem?

[Suchinda] We really intend to try to solve this problem. However, effectively solving the traffic problem may cause trouble for some other people. So, we have to consider this problem from many angles. It is impossible to solve the traffic problem without adopting some measures that may not please some.

[Unidentified correspondent] Will you set up a team right away to deal with this problem?

[Suchinda] I do plan to set up such a team to oversee this problem. Thank you.

Businessmen Urge Solution To Unrest

BK2204010092 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 22 Apr 92 pp 17, 26

[Text] Bankers and economists yesterday urged the Suchinda Government to find a "positive solution" to the current political unrest caused by public opposition to Gen Suchinda Khraprayun's premiership.

They warned that Thailand's economy would be severely affected if there was no "drastic political change".

They believed Thailand's economy this year would grow as expected, that is, GNP would expand by 8 percent, but in the short term the stock market would suffer because of the political unrest. Some economists believed the SET index might decline by 100 points.

Leading economist Kroekkrai Phiphatseritham, former president of Thammasat University, said the rally by 50,000 protesters on Monday reflected people's strong opposition to the Government.

"The government cannot ignore it. The demonstration by a huge crowd of 50,000 people was by no means a mob arranged by the Opposition parties to discredit the Government. It was a rally of people really opposing the Government," Prof Kroekkrai said.

He said it was rumoured there might be another coup to "solve the problem".

"But I want to warn here that if another coup takes place, Thailand's economy will be damaged," he said.

"Thailand is a open economy country and its economy greatly relies on foreign trade and investment, so the confidence of foreign investors and businessmen is very important. We cannot, unlike some of our neighbouring countries, ignore their feelings."

Prof Kroekkrai said he hoped Prime Minister Suchinda would be able to find a "positive" way out of the prevailing situation.

Thai Farmers Bank executive vice-president Woraphat Thohthanakasem said he feared that opposition to the Suchinda government would grow stronger and stronger.

"The weakest point of this Government is the appointment of politicians who were charged with being 'unusually rich' ministers," Dr Woraphat said.

"I don't see how this Government and, in particular, the Prime Minister, can defend this. This is because Gen Suchinda was the person who ordered the investigation of these unusually rich politicians."

He said at first he believed the opposition would not be very strong "but the rally of some 50,000 people on Monday night made me believe that the opposition move would continue with stronger actions".

But he said local investors and businessmen were rather familiar with political unrest, "and I believe they will not suspend their decisions to expend their businesses unless the unrest drags on for months.

"What I am concerned about is the confidence of foreign investors and businessmen. These investors and businessmen, particularly Americans and Japanese, have suffered because of an economic recession in their own countries and they are already considering withdrawing or suspending investments in other countries. The political unrest in Thailand, therefore, will help them to make their decisions faster," he said.

If the unrest ended in a few weeks, the economy would not be affected and the GNP would grow in the range of 8 percent as forecast. "But if it is prolonged or the situation ends with an unwanted negative solution, then I cannot predict anything," he said.

Bangkok Bank senior vice-president, Nimit Nonthapanthawat also believed the current political unrest had affected the confidence of foreign investors, and the Suchinda Government would have to restore their confidence quickly.

"If the situation is prolonged, Thailand's economy will be adversely affected," he said.

However, Bank of Thailand Governor Wichit Suphinit had a different view.

"So far, I received no reports of negative reactions from foreign investors. I believe they understand the situation in Thailand and are waiting to see the new Government's policies," he said.

Bangkok Metropolitan Bank executive chairman Anuthra Atwanon sharee Mr Withit's view that foreign investors had not reacted negatively to events in Thailand.

"This is because Thailand's economic fundamentals are very strong, particularly the export performance, which is very good," he said.

He said the public should not be so sensitive and should give the new government an opportunity to administrate.

But Prof Korekkrai said he did not think the Government would be able to work effectively.

"Prime Minister Suchinda said he will concentrate on economic affairs, but only two neutral ministers were appointed to handle economic ministries—Finance Minister Suthi Singsane and Deputy Commerce Minister M.R. Pridiyathon Thewakun," he said.

Other bankers declined to comment. Thai Farmers Bank executive vice-chairman Narong Srisa-an said: "I will not comment about the current political affairs. I prefer to do my own business".

Krung Thai Bank managing-director Sirin Nimmanhaeminda also declined to comment: "I know only the Krung Thai Bank's share today (yesterday)", he said.

Meanwhile, board of Trade executive director Prayun Thaloengsri said the political unrest would cost Thailand the opportunity of becoming the region's leader.

Thailand should take advantage of the peace in nieghbouring countries by improving the effiency of local industries.

"But, unfortunately, the opposition to the new Government has shaken both foreign and local investors' confidence," he said.

"Many foreign investors have asked me about of the new Government, and they were concerned. I can only ask them to wait and see."

Mr Prayun said some ministers in the new Government were not to be trusted.

He said he was optimistic the Government and Opposition parties would finally face each other and settle their disagreements.

He suggested Prime Minister Suchinda replaced those ministers who were unacceptable to the public.

Suchinda Urged To 'Defuse a Terrible Crisis'

BK2204005592 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 22 Apr 92 p 4

[Editorial: "Suchinda Can Still Right His Wrongs"]

[Text] The outpouring of dissent against Gen Suchinda Khraprayun's undemocratic assumption of the premiership as manifested by Monday's mass rally at the Royal Plaza, to some extent, offered a grim reminder of the political mood and volatile atmosphere that characterised the days leading up to the "October 14" popular uprising in 1973. This saw hundreds of thousands of pro-democracy supporters take to the streets to demand the resignation of the Thanom-Praphat-Narong dictatorship. But instead of heeding the democratic aspirations of the people, the hated regime then made the grave mistake of trying to crush the people's will with brute force.

Monday's protesters, conservatively estimated at 36,000 by the Police Special Branch, made the "staged" show more than a week earlier, when various groups of people converged on Gen Suchinda and showered him with flattery and flowers to congratulate him on his appointment as prime minister, look like child's play. Although not as hated by the people as the Thanom-Praphat Narong regime was almost two decades ago, the political event made Gen Suchinda appear to be the most unpopular government leader since former prime minister Thanom Kittikhachon. The only exception is, perhaps, Thanin Kraiwichien, whose repressive regime forced opponents to resort to armed rebellion in the jungles or into abject submission instead of taking to the streets to demonstrate their views.

With the prospect of an open showdown developing if the situation is not handled properly, the simmering discontent among the Opposition and pro-democracy aspirants against Gen Suchinda's premiership does not bode well at all—not only for the Government at the beginning of its term, but also for the country as a whole. The 23-point plunge in the SET [Securities Exchange of Thailand] Index yesterday is the first clear sign of the impact created in business circles by fallout from the mass protest.

Viewed from a different perspective, the mass rally should hopefully help to revive a sense of righteousness, conscience and wisdom among our government and military leaders who appear to be mired in self-righteousness, self-serving interests and personal glorification. It remains to be seen whether this desperate hope will be realised.

Despite the inconvenience caused to motorists and bus travellers, the rally itself was quite orderly and the protesters self-disciplined. It is, indeed, saddening that this form of freedom of expression which is so conducive to democratic principles was viewed with contempt and great distrust by the military leadership. In a commentary aired yesterday morning, the Army radio blasted the Opposition and the protesters, charging them with being uncivilised and primitive for turning to street politics rather than "playing according to parliamentary rules". The radio also slammed the Opposition for supposedly misleading the public and not contributing to the development of democracy and the economy.

Indeed, it is an irony that while preaching democracy on the one hand, Supreme Commander ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Kaset Rotchananin can also cast an ominous shadow over the political landscape by indicating that a military coup cannot be ruled out. After all, to our military leadership, might is still right and is seemingly still regarded as the cure-all to political, social, and economic ills.

The blackout imposed on television and radio coverage of anti-Suchinda activities, the upcoming changes to the format of the popular Mong Tang Mum television programme and the alleged intimidation of Opposition MPs, to name just a few, bear the hallmarks of the making of a repressive regime that is alienating itself daily from the people it seeks to rule.

Faced with growing opposition from the pro-democracy alliance and internal discontent among the coalition parties, there seem to be few options left for Gen Suchinda's government. Dissolving Parliament is one of the options. Staging a military coup is another, but one which will certainly plunge the country deeper into political and economic turmoil and tragedy.

There is, however, one graceful option and that is for Gen Suchinda to accept the challenge offered by New Aspiration leader Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut and step down and contest him in an election in his constituency. That way, he will not only restore public trust and confidence and right his wrongs but also defuse a terrible crisis and, by doing so, render this country a huge favour.

Vietnam

Do Muoi Pledges 'Total' Cooperation on MIA's

BK2204072892 Hong Kong AFP in English 0645 GMT 22 Apr 92

[Text] Hanoi, April 22 (AFP)—Vietnamese leader Do Muoi pledged total cooperation to resolve the MIA issue here Wednesday, marking a "breakthrough" in U.S.-Vietnamese relations, members of a U.S. Senate committee said.

"What we have here today is a clear breakthrough in the relationship," Senator Hank Brown of Colorado said after four members of the Senate Select Committee on Prisoners of War/Missing in Action (POW/MIA) Affairs met the Communist Party chief.

"It's a solid commitment to give us access to following up on the live-sighting reports, and to verify once and for all that there are no Americans being held captive."

Senator John Kerry of Massachusetts, the committee chairman, said it would be possible to determine "within three to four months" whether Vietnam was doing its utmost to help account for missing U.S. servicemen, thus satisfying the principle condition for the lifting of the U.S. economic embargo.

Specifically, the senators asked Vietnamese officials for better helicopter transportation for U.S. teams investigating reports of sighting of Americans and for unlimited access to historical archives and people who might have knowledge about the fate of POWs.

They also asked for Vietnamese help in gaining access to airplane crash sites in Laos that are more easily reachable from Vietnam, he said.

"The general secretary ... flat out gave us a commitment that he will give us the access we need to resolve this," committee vice-chairman Senator Bob Smith of New Hampshire said of Muoi.

Smith added that Muoi was clearly encouraged by the committee's firm year-end deadline to report the results of its 18-month investigation.

Vietnamese diplomats have complained in the past that Washington keeps moving the goalposts back each time Hanoi meets a condition for the lifting of the U.S. economic embargo and the establishment of diplomatic relations.

Exchange of Liaison Offices With ROK Announced

BK2004061792 Hanoi VNA in English 0610 GMT 20 Apr 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 20—The Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Republic of Korea have decided to set up liaison offices in each other's capital city with a view to boosting their cooperation and mutual understanding.

This comes in an announcement made public here today by the Foreign Ministry.

Hanoi Trade Fair Showcases Chinese Goods

BK1804103192 Hanoi VNA in English 0648 GMT 18 Apr 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 18—A trade fair organised exclusively for Chinese goods opens in Hanoi today. It is the first of its kind so far.

The 180 participants from 15 cities and provinces in China display a vast range of products at the Giang Vo Exhibition Centre which just last week housed the biggest international trade fair ever held in Vietnam.

Liaoning claims the biggest number of participants, 80 in all. It is followed by Guangxi (19), Guangdong (14), and Tianjin (10).

Most prominent at the fair, to last till April 27, are electrical appliances, construction materials, pharmaceutics and consumer goods.

Foreign Relations Delegation Visits Laos

BK1704152192 Hanoi VNA in English 1412 GMT 17 Apr 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 17—A delegation of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee External Relations Commission led by Nguyen Van Son, deputy head of the commission, paid a working visit to Laos from April 9-16.

While in Laos, the delegation was cordially received by Phoun Sipaseut, Politburo member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee [LPRP CC], and head of the LPRP CC External Relations Commission, and Thongsing Thammavong, Politburo member of the LPRP CC and head of the party CC Organization Commission.

Reportage of Malaysia's Mahathir, Party's Visit Received by Do Muoi

BK2104155192 Hanoi VNA in English 1534 GMT 21 Apr 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 21—Secretary General of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee Do Muoi received here this morning Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed and his party on a current official visit to Vietnam.

Also present were Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam, chief of the Office of the Council of Ministers Tran Xuan Gia and Malaysian Ambassador to Vietnam M. Parameswaran.

Secretary General Do Muoi welcomed the Malaysian prime minister and his party's visit as a new step of development in the relations between the two countries and a success of peace.

He highly valued the results obtained in the talks in Hanoi between the Prime Minister Mahathir and chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet, and stressed that that was good opportunity for the two countries to strengthen their economic and commercial relations and mutual support in national development.

General Secretary Do Muoi informed the premier about the current process of renovation and national construction in Vietnam and pointed out that Vietnam hopes to share in Malaysia's precious experience in management and investment cooperation with foreign countries.

He asked Prime Minister Mahathir to convey his best wishes to the king, the queen, and other leaders of Malaysia. He also wished the Malaysian people success in building a prosperous and happy country.

For his part, Prime Minister Mahathir said that the presence of a large Malaysian delegation in Vietnam bears testimony to the fact that Malaysia attaches great importance to the Malaysian-Vietnamese relations.

After informing General Secretary Do Muoi of the initial results of his visit, the Malaysian prime minister affirmed that the relations between Vietnam and Malaysia will be further developed.

Prime Minister Mahathir reaffirmed Malaysia's readiness to share with Vietnam its experience in economic development and foreign investment and other fields.

The Malaysian prime minister expressed his belief that the cooperation between the two countries would strongly develop their economy, thus contributing to peace, stability and cooperation in the region. Malaysia together with Vietnam will struggle for the interests of the developing countries, he stressed.

Prime Minister Mahathir invited Secretary General Do Muoi to pay a visit to Malaysia. The invitation was accepted with thanks.

Joint Discussion on Spratly Islands

BK2104161392 Hanoi VNA in English 1541 GMT 21 Apr 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 21—Malaysian Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah bin Haji Ahmad Badawi and Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam held a press conference here this noon on the results of the current official visit to Vietnam by Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed.

The two foreign ministers recalled that during the visit, Vietnam and Malaysia concluded an agreement on economic, scientific and technical cooperation, an agreement on post and telecommunicatons links, and a memorandum of understanding in cooperation in rubber planting.

The two sides were working on other agreements aimed at developing the close multiform cooperation between the two countries.

They informed the press of the contents of the talks between the two ministers including setting up of a joint committee aimed at creating a mechanism to coordinate their operations in order to strengthen the cooperation and implememt the agreements between the two countries. The two sides also discussed the question of overlapping territories on the sea, and joint exploitation of that area ...

Asked by a REUTER correspondent to elaborate the issue of overlapping territories, the two ministers stressed that the question of overlapping territories concern the sovereignty of Vietnam and Malaysia only.

The two sides are actively contemplating joint exploitation of oil and natural gas through two companies, Petronas of Malaysia and Petro Vietnam.

Asked by AFP and THE NATION (Thailand) about Vietnam's intention to accede to the Bali Treaty and join the ASEAN the Malaysian foreign minister said: Vietnam's wish to accede to the Bali Treaty proves beyong any doubt its desire to strengthen relations with other countries in the region in general and (word indistinct) countries in particular.

He expressed his belief that the relations between Vietnam and the other countries in the region would further strengthen and develop, and expressed his hope that Vietnam would soon become a member of the ASEAN.

Answering a Malaysian correspondent's question on the issue of Vietnamese boat people in Malaysia, Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam said Vietnam appreciates Malaysia's policy to offer training to Vietnamese boat people in Malaysia before returing them to Vietnam, stressing that this is a forceful demonstration of the good-will of Malaysia which will certainly help to strengthen further the relations beween the two countries.

Malaysian PM's Activities Reported

BK2104162592 Hanoi VNA in English 1544 GMT 21 Apr 92

[Excerpts] Hanoi VNA April 21—Visiting Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed, Mrs Mahathir and their entourage today attended the token inauguration of Public Bank, the first joint venture bank between the Vietnam Investment and Development Bank and Public Bank of Malaysia. [passage omitted]

Also today, Prime Minister Mahathir and his entourage visited the Ho Chi Minh Museum, the People's Army

Museum, the Tran Quoc Pagoda, the Moslem Mosque and some scenic places, handicraft workshops and production enterprises in Hanoi.

Prime Minister Mahathir was accompanied by head of the Office of Vietnam's Council of Ministers Tran Xuan Gia and Malaysian Ambassador to Vietnam M. Parameswaran.

Joint Cooperation Commission Formed

BK2204040692 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0315 GMT 22 Apr 92

[Text] Hanoi, April 22 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysia and Vietnam have agreed to establish a joint commission to facilitate greater bilateral cooperation between the two countries.

Malaysian Foreign Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said the decision to set up the commission was reached during the final round of talks between him and his Vietnamese counterpart Nguyen Manh Cam Tuesday.

The decision followed instructions from the prime ministers of both countries, he told a joint press conference with Manh Cam.

Abdullah said officials of the two countries would meet next month to work out details of the commission.

He and Manh Cam also made further progress in their discussions relating to the overlapping claims involving the two countries in the South China Sea.

They agreed on various principles to be adopted by their officials on future talks for the joint development of the areas involved.

These included determination of the size of the disputed area, an agreement that whatever joint development undertaken in the area should be for the mutual benefit of both countries and an undertaking that whatever agreement reached on the joint development should not prejudice the final outcome of the determination of the line of demarcation.

On the multilateral claims over the Spratly Islands involving several countries including China, Abdullah said both countries shared the position that the problem should be settled by all parties involved through negotiations and by diplomatic means.

Military action or use of force or any other action which could lead to tension and confrontation should be avoided at all cost, he added.

As to the question of Vietnam becoming an ASEAN member, Abdullah said certain procedures must be observed before this could come about.

However, Vietnam's accession to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation would be the first step towards realising this objective, he added.

Abdullah also said he and Manh Cam discussed preparations for the forthcoming nonaligned summit to be held in Indonesia in September.

Both of them would attend the preparatory meeting in Bali in May.

Mahathir Opens Joint-Venture Bank

BK2104123692 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0851 GMT 21 Apr 92

[From Abdul Rahman Sulaiman]

[Text] Hanoi, April 21 (OANA/BERNAMA)—A Malaysian-incorporated bank opened its branch here Tuesday in joint venture with a local bank to pave the way for the promotion of a strong Malaysian business presence in Vietnam.

The branch, called the VID Public Bank, the first Vietnamese-Malaysian joint venture bank between the Bank for Investment and Development of Vietnam (BIDV) and Public Bank Berhad [Limited] of Malaysia, was officially declared open by Malaysian Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed.

The symbolic ceremony was witnessed by Malaysian and Vietnamese officials as well as businessmen from both countries.

In a brief speech, Dr. Mahathir congratulated the two partners for their venture.

"The success of this venture, I am sure, will form the springboard for many other similar business partnerships to come and pave the way for the promotion of a strong Malaysian business presence in Vietnam," said Dr. Mahathir, who is here on a five-day official visit.

He added that the establishment and nurturing of a strong and mutually reinforcing Malaysian relationship with the Indochinese countries were timely and augured well for the reconstruction process of those countries.

As a member of ASEAN, Malaysia was more than happy to be of assistance, especially in areas of technical know-how and expertise in development [word indistinct] process of its own development, he said. [sentence as received]

"A rapidly developing Vietnam would be beneficial for the concept of ASEAN to succeed," he added.

Joint-Canadian Firm To Exploit Offshore Gas

BK1804155792 Hanoi VNA in English 1439 GMT 18 Apr 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 18—Petrovietnam and Luguigaz/SNC of Canada signed here today a master agreement on a 256 million USD [U.S. dollar] project to utilise associated gas from the oil wells on the continental shelf of South Vietnam.

Under the agreement, 30 percent of the total capital will be contributed in equity shares by Vietnam and Canada and 70 percent will be borrowed from outside at low interest rate.

The project's objectives are to build in 24 months a liquifying plant onshore to liquify associated gas now left unused for export and home consumption and also to supply unliquifiable gas as fuel for thermoelectric power plants in Vietnam.

The first pipelines will be laid at the Bach Ho oilfield and later at the Rong oilfield.

CPV Delegation Attends Indian Party Congress

BK2004160592 Hanoi VNA in English 1547 GMT 20 Apr 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 20—A delegation of the Communist Party of Vietnam (CPV) led by Mrs. Truong My Hoa, secretary of the CPV Central Committee, attended the 79th congress of the Indian National Congress Party (I) (INCP) held in Andhra Pradesh State from April 14-16.

During the congress, Mrs. Hoa called on Narashimha Rao, president of the INCP (I) and conveyed a message of greetings of the CPV Central Committee to the congress. The Vietnamese delegation had separate meetings with delegates from other parties, and toured several cultural establishments in the locality.

Do Muoi Greets Indian Communist Party Chief

BK2004155992 Hanoi VNA in English 1547 GMT 20 Apr 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 20—General Secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee Do Muoi has congratulated Indrajit Gupta on his re-election as general secretary of the National Council of the Communist Party of India (CPI).

In his congratulatory message, General Secretary Do Muoi expressed his belief the CPI under the leadership of the National Council headed by General Secretary Indrajit Gupta will obtain greater achievements in the struggle for an India of independence, national unity and prosperity, and for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress.

General Secretary Indrajit Gupta was re-elected at the 15th congress of the CPI held in Hyderabad from April 10-16. It was attended by a delegation of the Communist Party of Vietnam headed by Do Quang Thang, secretary of the party Central Committee and head of the party Control Commission.

While there, the delegation exchanged views with leaders of the CPI on the situation in their countries and the world, and visited some economic, cultural establishments. It also exchanged views with delegations of other fraternal parties attending the congress.

Army Paper Discusses New World Order

BK2004023192 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 27 Mar 92

[27 March QUAN DOI NHAN DAN article by Phan Doan Nam: "Vietnam and the New World Order"]

[Text] With the Soviet Union falling apart, the world order which took shape in the wake of World War II has totally collapsed. There have been rapid, complex, and extensive changes in the world during the first two years of this decade which make it difficult to appreciate the significance and global impact of such great changes in such a short period of time. It is even more difficult to arrive at a clear-cut conclusion about which world orders are now influencing the world. This is because for the past 40 years there have been two superpowers, but now that the Soviet Union has fallen apart, the United States stands alone as a superpower. As a result, many people believe that the world order has switched from bipolar to unipolar.

Objectively, the United States is now the world's strongest power in all aspects. The U.S. voice has to be taken into account when it comes to dealing with various important international issues. From another perspective, it is necessary to realize that the United States can no longer maintain its absolute superiority as it did during the 20 years following World War II.

Militarily, the United States is the strongest country in terms of both its strategic nuclear force and its conventional warfare force. However, the strategic nuclear force of the former Soviet Union—now taken over by CIS—appears to have remained intact and if it is combined with the forces of other big countries such as Britain, France, and China, this CIS nuclear force will cause the U.S. superiority to disappear.

It was the United States which initiated and directed the Gulf war against Iraq, but it was unable to conduct that war unilaterally as had been the case with the Vietnam war. It is absolutely correct for people to talk about a decline in U.S. economic strength. The U.S. GNP, which accounted for more than half of the world total during the 1950's, now constitutes only less than a quarter—23 percent to be precise—of the world's total. Within only a decade, the United States, which used to be a creditor nation, has slumped to being the world's biggest debtor. The U.S. foreign debt now amounts to over $1,000 billion and this figure, which is growing day by day, is as big as the total foreign debt of the developing countries. Thirty-four million Americans are reported to be living under the poverty line. This situation has created deep divisions within the U.S. ruling circles. Neo-isolationism is developing with the idea of regaining U.S. strength from the inside.

This situation shows why President Bush's popularity continues to decline even though he has gained many resounding victories in the world. It is clear that the demand by some ruling forces in the United States to

impose a U.S.-led unipolar world order is beyond the capabilities of the United States.

From another perspective, with the growth of the world's productive forces as a result of the booming of the scientific, technological, and information revolution, the process of the international division of labor in the world production system has become a pattern that influences the growth of various countries. The ever-growing interdependency in relations among countries and the ideals of national independence and self-reliance have become a law of survival and development of all nations. Therefore, regardless of how strong the United States may be, it can in no way impose its will on the entire world as desired. This is because everything which is disadvantageous to the U.S. allies and to other nations is also against the interests of the United States itself.

Then what does the existing new world order look like? Some people believe that at present we are entering into a multipolar world order in place of the collapsed bipolar world order. Because the world situation is not yet stable we will have to continue to monitor and analyze it prior to arriving at a clear-cut conclusion. However, this shows that the world is developing in a diverse way. All nations have awoken and are clearly aware that the interests of their nations are inseparable from those of other nations. The trend toward independence and sovereignty is inseparable from the trend toward cooperation—not [illegible] for survival and development.

The world is developing in a diverse and multipolar direction, and no two countries are alike. Some centers command a comprehensive attraction while others are only attractive in certain aspects. These centers are operating both independently and in coordination with one another.

At a recent high-level meeting of UN Security Council members, a multi-center trend emerged, calling for building a new world order as a mainstay of the era.

Although the time when big countries can manipulate world affairs and decide the destinies of other nations is not yet over, it is now in its final stage.

Over the past 60 years, led by the Communist Party of Vietnam, the Vietnamese people have always linked the struggle for their independence, freedom, and happiness with the struggle to contribute to doing away with the old world order and establishing a new world order under which all nations are friends and can achieve mutual co-existence and development on the basis of equality and mutual benefit while ensuring peace and security of each respective country and of the world as a whole.

With the victory of the 1945 August revolution and with the Dien Bien Phu victory of 1954, the Vietnamese people duly contributed to the collective struggle of nations in the world aimed at doing away with the old colonialist regime and the repressive and exploitative yoke imposed by one nation against another. Vietnam has contributed to translating the new world order, which took shape after World War II, into reality for various nations, especially those of Asia, Africa, and Latin America, in accordance with those words already inscribed in the UN Charter on the right to self-determination of nations and on doing away with the use of force and threat of force as a tool to carry out national policies.

The Vietnamese people's struggle for the liberation of the southern part of Vietnam from neocolonialism and for national unification has effected a change in the post-World War II world order in the direction of democratization. In particular, Vietnam has contributed to improving the role of the United Nations movement and to turning this movement into a political center of the developing world.

Today, with all of its activities under comprehensive renovation and with its open-door foreign policy, Vietnam wants to befriend all nations. The Vietnamese people are making their contributions to a new world order. Vietnam's policy of befriending all nations is not a question of opportunism and pragmatism because the latter advocate placing national interests above class and international interests. By contrast, the interests of the Vietnamese nation are also those of the Vietnamese laboring people of various strata, especially workers, peasants, and the intelligentsia. Furthermore, the Vietnamese people are also fully aware that their national interests are also inseparable from those of other nations, especially in terms of security and development. Therefore, our policy of befriending all nations does not mean that we will no longer struggle to criticize the actions and policies of those forces opposed to peace, national independence, democracy, and social progress and that we will stop supporting the struggle of nations for this lofty cause of our time.

Although it has been only a short period of time since the introduction by the seventh party congress of a foreign strategy that Vietnam wants to befriend all nations, this strategy has brought initial yet positive results, with the initial and greatest of all being that it has duly contributed to amelioriating the atmosphere in Southeast Asia. A new Southeast Asian political order—which is based on the principle of friendly neighborly cooperation and good relations with other countries having interests in Southeast Asia—has taken shape and is devoping vigorously. In the past 40 years, the political order in Southeast Asia was a miniature representation of the post-World War II world order. Therefore, the current changes in Southeast Asia in the direction of peace, friendship, and cooperation will definitely contribute to spurring the establishment of a new world order in the direction of democracy, friendship, and equal and mutually-beneficial cooperation.

International Economic Seminar Opens in Hanoi

BK2104062492 Hanoi VNA in English 0617 GMT 21 Apr 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 21—A seminar on economy of Vietnam was opened here yesterday under the joint auspices of the Office of the Council of Ministers, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Economic Development Institute of the World Bank (EDI/WB).

Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers Phan Van Khai delivered an inaugural speech.

Present at the inaugural ceremony were, on the Vietnamese side, head of the State Planning Commission Do Quoc Sang, and head of the State Committee of Sciences Dang Huu, and on the international side, David Smith, UNDP representative in Hanoi, C. Madavo, head of the East Asian department, and Dr. David Dollar, representative of the World Bank.

Former prime minister of the Philippines Cesar Enrique A. Virata was invited to the seminar.

The seminar takes place in the framework of UNDP-funded project on "Promotion of Economic Management" with funds from the managing development programme and other countries.

The seminar will last 10 days.

Decree Officially Promulgates 1992 Constitution

BK2004072492 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 18 Apr 92

[Council of State chairman's 18 April 1992 decree]

[Text] Pursuant to the 15 April 1992 resolution of the Eighth National Assembly's 11th Session defining a number of provisions on the enforcement of the 1992 Constitution, the Council of State of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam hereby decides to promulgate the 1992 Constitution adopted by the SRV National Assembly on 15 April 1992.

Hanoi 18 April 1992
On behalf of the Council of State
Chairman Vo Chi Cong

Resolution on Enforcement Issued

BK2004112792 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 18 Apr 92

[Resolution on enforcement of the 1992 Constitution]

[Text] Pursuant to Article 83 of the Constitution of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and on the recommendations of the Council of State, the SRV National Assembly has reached the following decisions:

1. The SRV 1992 Constitution adopted by the National Assembly on 15 April 1992 shall take effect as of the date of promulgation.

2. The Eighth National Assembly is to continue its work until the holding of the First Session of the Ninth National Assembly, which will take place before 30 September 1992 at the latest. High-level organs of the state, the Council of State, the Council of Ministers, the Supreme People's Court, and the Supreme People's Organ of Control are to continue carrying out their duties and functions until the Ninth National Assembly has elected new high-level state organs, as stipulated under the provisions of the 1992 Constitution.

3. From now until the First Session of the ninth National Assembly, the Council of State is responsible for adopting the necessary measures to guarantee the enforcement of the 1992 Constitution. As an immediate objective, it is necessary to make adequate preparations for the elections of deputies to the Ninth National Assembly, which will take place before 31 July 1992 at the latest. Efforts must be made to provide guidance and supervision over the state organs concerned in compiling and perfecting the various state draft laws already projected for the 1992 law-making plan, first of all the draft law governing the organization of the state mechanism, for submission to the First Session of the Ninth National Assembly.

This resolution was adopted on 15 April 1992 by the Eighth National Assembly's 11th Session.

(signed) National Assembly Chairman Le Quang Dao

Promulgation, Election Date Noted

BK2004070192 Hanoi VNA in English 0639 GMT 20 Apr 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 20—The State Council of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam promulgated here yesterday the contry's 1992 Constitution approved by the Eighth National Assembly on April 15.

This was announced at a press conference here last Saturday by the State Council. The State Council also made public the Law on National Assembly Elections, the Law on the National Assembly Organization, and resolutions on the implementation of the 1992 Constitution and of administrative boundaries.

The State Council decided to organize elections to the Ninth National Assembly on July 19,1992.

40 Foreign Investment Projects Licensed

BK1704141592 Hanoi VNA in English 0627 GMT 13 Apr 92

[Text] The State Committee for Cooperation and Investment in the first quarter of this year granted licences to 40 foreign investment projects at a total capital of USD [U.S. dollar] 273 million.

The biggest project is a joint venture with Chinh Fong Investment of Taiwan to establish a motorcycle-assembling and manufacturing enterprise, the first of its

kind in Vietnam. It is capitalised at USD 95.5 million wholly contributed by the Taiwanese company for a duration of 50 years.

Another big project is an ale and beer joint venture between the southern province of Tien Giang and France with an investment capital of USD 43 million.

In agriculture, a Taiwanese-invested project on banana growing in Ho Chi Minh City was licensed with an investment capital of USD 33 million, so was a sericulture and silk joint venture between the northern province of Nam Ha and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea with an investment capital of USD 9 million.

Hongkong entered into a cement-producing joint venture with the imperial city of Hue with an investment capital of USD 31 million.

Some of Vietnam's traditional trading partners have also invested in Vietnam. The Russian Federation, for instance, was granted two licences with a total capital of USD 7 million.

Thus, a total of 405 investment projects capitalised at USD 2 billion and 920 million have been approved since the investment law was promulgated in Vietnam.

Nearly 10,000 Work at Foreign Invested-Firms

BK1704084192 Hanoi VNA in English 0620 GMT 17 Apr 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 17—According to the Labour Department, more than 8,500 Vietnamese are working at foreign invested establishments in the country, excluding 3,500 seasonal labourers in construction projects.

The average salary is USD [U.S. dollar] 40/month in the productive sector, USD 60/month in the service sector compared to USD 70 and USD 60 respectively for office employees at these establishments.

For Vietnamese in the managing staff, the lowest salary is USD/month [as received] and the highest USD 2,000/month.

The same source said the foreign invested establishments are recruiting 250-300 directors and deputy directors, 100 accountants and 5,000 [word indistinct] workers.

Administrative Boundaries Unchanged

BK2004115492 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 18 Apr 92

[Text] At a press conference on 18 April 1992, the Office of the National Assembly and the Council of State also made public Council of State Chairman Vo Chi Cong's decree dated 18 April 1992 on the law governing the organization of the National Assembly and the law governing the elections of National Assembly deputies adopted by the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on 15 April 1992.

Regarding the administrative boundaries of the provinces and cities under the direct management of the central government, the resolution of the National Assembly points out that for the time being, there is no change in the administrative boundaries of the aforementioned provinces and cities. The objective of the move is to stabilize the situation and administrative work to concentrate efforts on satisfactorily implementing the socioeconomic tasks both on a national and local scale.